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Wednesday, August 10, 1960
Sravana 19, 1882 (Saka)

LOK SABHA DEBATES

Eleventh Session
(Second Lok Sabha)

LOK SABHA SECRETARIAT
New Delhi

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N.B.—The sign + above a name of a member on Questions, which were orally answered, indicates that the Question was actually asked on the floor of the House by that Member.

GMGIPND—LS II—755 Ai LS—22-8-60—950.

LOK SABHA

Wednesday, August 10, 1960/Sravana 19, 1882 (Saka)

The Lok Sabha met at Eleven of the Clock.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

गाजीपुर के निकट गंगा पर पुल

+

*२७३. **श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री :**
श्री रामकृष्ण गुप्त :
श्री सरजू पाण्डेय :
श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह :

क्या **रेलवे** मंत्री २१ अप्रैल, १९६० के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या १६७८ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बत ने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) गाजीपुर के निकट गंगा पर पुल बनाने के बारे में अब तक क्या प्रगति हुई है ;

(ख) क्या उस क्षेत्र में कुछ अन्य स्थानों पर पुलों के निर्माण के लिये कोई सुझाव मिले हैं ;

(ग) क्या योजना आयोग आदि से सम्बन्धित सरकारी अधिकारियों ने गाजीपुर के निकट पुल बनाने की अनुमति दे दी है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो क्या यह पुल तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजनाकाल में बनाया जायेगा ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां) : (क) और (ख). गाजीपुर के पास गंगा नदी पर पुल बनाने की संभावना और उसके आर्थिक पहलुओं परे अभी विचार हो रहा है । बक्सर में पुल बनाने के एक दूसरे सुझाव पर भी विचार हो रहा है ।

(ग) जी नहीं ।

(घ) अभी कुछ नहीं कहा जा सकता ।

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि यह जो पुल बनाने की योजना पर विचार हो रहा है, इसको कब तक अंतिम रूप दिया जा सकेगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जब तक कि पूरे तौर पर विचार और दूसरे जो पहलू हैं उनके ऊपर अच्छी तरह से गौर नहीं हो जाता और इसमें जो पैसे की बात है, उसको भी नहीं देख लिया जाता और यह सब कुछ देखने के बाद आखिरी फैसला नहीं हो जाता तब तक कुछ नहीं कहा जा सकता । उसके बाद ही आखिरी फैसला होगा ।

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि यह जो पुल गाज़ीपुर के निकट बनाया जाएगा, यह गाज़ीपुर से कितनी दूर होगा अथवा यह गाज़ीपुर में ही होगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : यह तो बाद में देखने की बात है जब फैसला होगा कि पुल बनेगा या नहीं बनेगा ।

डा० राम सुभग सिंह : माननीय मंत्री जी ने कहा कि गाज़ीपुर में पुल बनाने के बारे में जांच हुई और उसके आर्थिक पहलुओं पर विचार किया जा रहा है । मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि क्या यह भी सही

है कि गाज़ीपुर के लोगों ने इस बात का आश्वासन दिया है कि वे लोग भी यदि सरकार चाहे तो कुछ आर्थिक सहायता देने को तैयार है ? मैं यह भी जानना चाहता हूं कि गाज़ीपुर और बक्सर में से किस जगह पर पुल कम खर्चे में बन पाएगा ?

श्री शाहनवाज़ खां : अभी तक कोई डिटेल्ड सर्वे नहीं हुआ है । लेकिन जब कोई फैसला किया जाता है कि एक बहुत बड़ा पुल बने या न बने तो वहां के लोगों की जो कोई पेशकश होती है आर्थिक मदद की उस पर ध्यान रख करके यह नहीं बनता है बल्कि दूसरे पहलुओं पर गौर करके बनाया जाता है ।

श्री सरजू पाण्डेय : माननीय मंत्री जी ने पिछले दिनों भी यही जवाब दिया था । मेरे पास एक अखबार है जो वाराणसी से निकलता है और इसमें ज़िला कांग्रेस कमेटी आज़मगढ़ ने योजना आयोग को इस बात के लिये धन्यवाद दिया है कि गाज़ीपुर के पुल को तृतीय पंच वर्षीय योजना में शरीक कर लिया गया है । इसमें जो कुछ लिखा है उसको अगर माननीय मंत्री महोदय चाहें तो मैं पढ़ कर सुना सकता हूं । इसमें लिखा है :—

> 'जिला कांग्रेस कमेटी रेलवे मंत्रालय और केन्द्रीय नियोजन आयोग को गाजीपुर में गंगा नदी पर विशाल-पुल निर्माण योजना को तृतीय पंचवर्षीय योजना में सम्मिलित कर लेने पर धन्यवाद देती है "।

मैं जानना चाहता हूं कि यह बात कहां तक सत्य है ?

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : जो वस्तुस्थिति है उसको तो डिप्टी मिनिस्टर साहब ने आपको बता दिया है । जब आप खुद ही फैसला कर सकते हैं कि अखबार में जो कुछ निकला है वह सही है या नहीं ।

Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri: As this proposal is being handled by the Railway Ministry, may I know what is the exact proposal, whether this bridge will be from Tarighat to Ghazipur on the North-eastern Railway? May I also know whether it will be a metre gauge bridge or a broad gauge bridge?

Shri Jagjivan Ram: Preliminary inspection was made, and if it is finally decided to have a bridge there, naturally it will be from Tarighat to Ghazipur, and in that case, it will be broad gauge.

Shri C. D. Pande: In view of the growing needs of communication in future, there should be a bridge not only at Tarighat but also at places like Patna and Farrukhabad, because these are places where communication is most needed; these parts are now cut off . . .

Mr. Speaker: These are all suggestions for action.

Shri Kalika Singh: May I know if the Poona Research Institute has reported about the feasibility of the Ganga Bridge at Ghazipur?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: I thought I had replied to that. I would like to state that during the Third Five Year Plan, a sum of Rs. 25 crores has been set aside for construction and repair of bridges. Out of this amount, Rs. 14 crores have been earmarked for rehabilitation of existing bridges, and the remaining amount has to be spent on the carry-forward or throw-forward on the Brahmaputra Bridge; also there is another major bridge coming up on the Jumna. In addition, there are a number of bridges to be constructed on the Rourkela-Drug and Godhra-Ratlam sections. So with this very small amount, we cannot go in for construction of many major bridges.

Shri Kalika Singh: My question was whether the Railway department section of the Poona Research Institute has reported about the Ghazipur Bridge?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: No, it has not.

Sale of Unhygienic Eatables near Delhi Schools

*274. **Shri A. M. Tariq:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that scavangers and chhabriwalas sell injurious eatable stuffs like ice balls and imli preparations to school children in front of schools in Delhi and New Delhi; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose to take to stop sale of such injurious things to ensure better health of children?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Regular raids are organized by the Municipal Corporation of Delhi and the New Delhi Municipal Committee in their respective areas to round up the hawkers to check the sale of articles of food and drink, including ice balls, imli preparation etc. in front of schools.

सेठ अचल सिंह : क्या माननीय मंत्री महोदय बतलाने की कृपा करेंगे कि क्या यह मुनासिब नहीं है कि बच्चों से कुछ पैसे ले लिये जाया करें और उनको स्कूल में ही नाश्ता दे दिया जाया करे ?

श्री करमरकर : यह मुनासिब है ।

श्री अ० मु० तारिक : बजाय इसके कि छोट छोटे लोग जो स्कूल से बाहर ये छोटी छोटी चीजें बेचते हैं और बहुत गन्दे तरीके से बेचते हैं, क्या मिनिस्टरी आफ हेल्थ के लिये यह जरूरी नहीं है कि वह स्कूलों को एडवाइस करे कि वे छोटे छोटी कैंटीसं बनायें जो खुद लड़कों के लिये चीजें मुहया करें बजाय इसके कि लड़के मजबूर हों बाहर से चीजें खाने पर ?

[بجائے اس کے کہ چھوٹے چھوٹے لوگ جو سکول سے باہر یہ چھوٹی چھوٹی چیزیں بیچتے ہیں اور بہت گندے طریقے سے بیچتے ہیں ۔ کیا منسٹری آف ہیلتھ کے لئے یہ ضروری نہیں ہے کہ وہ سکولوں کو ایڈوائس کرے کہ وہ چھوٹی چھوٹی کینٹینس بنائیں جر خود لڑکوں کے لئے چیزیں مہیا کریں، بجائے اس کے کہ لڑکے مجبور ہوں باہر سے چیزیں کھانے پر ۔]

Shri Karmarkar: I think this is also a good suggestion. As a matter of fact, I am happy to say that a few of the schools are getting the best milk available in Delhi, I mean Shri Krishnappa's milk. I am also happy to say that progressive schools are thinking in terms of providing cheap milk. The difficulty is in respect of the not so well-organised schools. In their case, I think the best solution would be to have a sort of co-operative organisation running these canteens. It is an unfortunate fact, but true, that in Delhi and New Delhi, much of this unhealthy food is selling. I wish greater attention is paid to this by the Corporation and the New Delhi Municipal authorities concerned, and also by the people by way of health education.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: It is stated that scavengers are selling ice balls. I just want to know whether scavengers are doing their job by selling these ice balls. If that is so, may I know whether scavengers, as they come from the scavenger community, are prohibited from doing this? The Minister has replied to the question by saying 'yes'. I just want to know what does he mean by 'yes' to part (a) of the question.

Shri Karmarkar: I thought the meaning was obvious, that by 'yes', I meant that they were aware of the fact etc. etc. I am sorry that the question has been put in the way in which it has been put. But the answer to it is 'yes'. I wish that a change was made in the way the question has been put. I would entirely agree with my hon. friend that if there is any reflection on scavengers, it would be a wrong thing.

Mr. Speaker: The emphasis is not upon the persons who sell. The question has, no doubt, been put that way. It escaped our notice. Whoever might sell it, it is wrong.

Shri Karmarkar: Yes.

Shri Tangamani: May I know whether it has been brought to the notice of Government that there is generally adulteration of food articles, specially in Old Delhi?

Shri Karmarkar: I am sorry to say that there also there is a large amount of adulteration. I wish the authorities concerned take more rigorous steps. I am told by one of the municipal bodies that when such cases are brought before the courts, sometimes—in their opinion—persons are let off leniently. I would like to consider whether we cannot make the law more stringent, because food adulteration is growing into almost a nuisance.

Upper Sileru Project

***277. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 34 on the 10th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Andhra Pradesh Government have started construction work on the Upper Sileru Project; and

(b) if so, the nature of work started?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The construction of camp buildings, approach roads, and work on the weir has been started.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I know whether the construction work on the Balimela project on the Orissa side will wait till the actual construction of this project is taken up by the Andhra Pradesh Government?

Shri Hathi: The Balimela project has not yet been taken up.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: My question is whether the work started by the Orissa Government on the Balimela project will wait till the actual work on the Upper Sileru project is started by the Andhra Pradesh Government.

Shri Hathi: It will not wait; it need not wait.

Shri Ranga: When is this project expected to be completed?

Shri Hathi: It has just started; it may take about 6 years.

Shri Thirumala Rao: In view of the fact that the area is highly malarial, are anti-malaria operations going on simultaneously with the construction of this project?

Shri Hathi: That is for the State Government to take action. I think they will.

Shri Thirumala Rao: Has the attention of the Government been drawn to the fact that there is a large number of malaria cases among the workers that are doing the work there?

Shri Hathi: I shall require notice.

Shri Rami Reddy: I did not follow the answer given to Shri Ranga's question as to when the project is likely to be completed.

Mr. Speaker: Six years.

Shri Rami Reddy: I want to know the financial allocation during the year and when it is likely to be completed.

Mr. Speaker: Six years he said.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: May I know whether the consent of the Orissa Government was taken?

Shri Hathi: The consent of both the Andhra Government and the Orissa Government were taken.

Shri Venkatasubbiah: May I know the total cost of this project and the quantity of power that will be generated in kwts.? Has that been worked out?

Shri Hathi: The revised estimate is Rs. 895·58 lakhs and the power generated will be 120,000 kwts.

Prices of Foodgrains

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*279. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shri Daljit Singh:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether prices of foodgrains specially wheat and rice have come down during May and June, 1960;

(b) if so, to what extent;

(c) in what States; and

(d) further steps, if any, taken to bring down the prices?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The prices of rice and other kharif grains have actually risen to some extent during May and June 1960, as this is the lean period for these Kharif grains. The all-India index number of wholesale prices of rice increased from 108 in April to 113 in May and 114 in June, or an increase of 5·5% in May and June, 1960. The index number of wholesale prices of heat on the other hand, declined from 91 in April to 87 in May 1960 and remained unchanged at the same lower-level in June, 1960. This meant a decline in May and June 1960 of 4·5%.

(b) and (c). A statement is placed on the Table of the House showing the prices of rice, wheat, jowar and gram in certain important centres in different States from the end of April, 1960 to the end of June, 1960. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 79].

(d) The measures already taken to stabilise the prices of foodgrains at suitable levels which include large scale distribution of foodgrains from Government stocks through fair price shops, restrictions on bank advances against foodgrains and on forward trading in foodgrains, as also the zonal restrictions on movement, are continuing.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: May I know whether, in view of the fact that Government has failed to check the fluctuation in the prices of foodgrains, the scheme of State trading in foodgrains will be implemented if not implemented now?

Shri A. M. Thomas: This matter has been explained more than once in this House. To the extent possible, the scheme of State trading is being implemented.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know the reason why the prices of rice obtaining in the State of Jammu and Kashmir have not been given in this statement? May I know also whether it is a fact that prices of rice vary in Jammu and Kashmir valley, though the rice is supplied at a common rate from the Centre?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is well known that we are supplying rice to Jammu and Kashmir at subsidised rates. We are supplying large quantities of wheat also; and the larger consumption is of wheat.

Shri Vajpayee: Sir, the later part of my question has not been replied whether the Central Government has sent any directive to the State Government in regard to the prices of wheat and rice supplied by the Centre.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Yes, Sir; we have fixed the prices for supplies to consumers.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether the attention of Government has been drawn to the report of the Foodgrains Committee—not the Asoka Mehta Committee but the other committee on market arrivals—wherein criticism was made as to the way the prices of foodgrains have been computed by the statistician?

May I also konw whether this price of Rs. 26 for medium rice has been obtained by the same method or the actual methods have been varified by any new means?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The actual facts have been verified and these figures have been entered. We have got our own agencies in the various States besides the reports that we get from various State Governments.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know whether fair price shops have been opened in all the States of India or whether they are being opened in some selected States?

Shri A. M. Thomas: 50,943 shops are functioning in the various parts of the country.

Shri Ranga: Is it not a fact that the value of the rupee has come down—that rupee is becoming cheaper—and is anything being done to stabilise the price of the rupee in order to enable the Government themselves to stabilise the price of rice?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): It is not for this Ministry to say. But, that may be one of the reasons why the prices rise.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Has the Government received any complaints as to the quality of rice supplied in these fair price shops? Very often people complain that though they get rice they are not able to eat it.

Shri A. M. Thomas: That is not correct. Of course, some times complaints are being received about the quality of rice that is being distributed through the fair price shops. The shops are being periodically checked and as far as our information goes the rice supplied to the fair price shops is good rice.

Shri B. K. Gaikwad: Are Government aware that foodgrains are sold at higher rates in villages than in cities because the shopkeepers charge transportation charges from cities to villages? May I know whether Government can make arrangements to supply the foodgrains to the villagers at some cheaper rates than the rates prevailing in the cities?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is well known that we are supplying wheat at the rate of Rs. 14/- and common variety rice at the rate of Rs. 16/-. Of course, transporation charges will have to be added to that rate for supply to be made to the villages.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I know whether Government are considering any change in the zonal system which is prevailing in the country presently; and also, whether it is a fact that Rajasthan is being tacked on to Bombay in the new system?

Shri S. K. Patil: That is under constant observation. But, so far as wheat is concerned, there is absolutely no reason why there should be any zone at all. We have plenty of wheat to give to anybody; and surely, the zones create a difficulty which is also an additional reason for the rise in prices.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: In view of the statement made by the hon. Minister may I know why the zones are not being abolished and the whole country made into one zone?

Shri S. K. Patil: I am constantly trying to abolish this; and, for the time being, so far as wheat is concerned, I think, in a very few days I shall be in a position to say whether they will exist or not.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know whether Government have finalised their decision about the suggestion that they should announce the price policy regarding wheat and rice before the marketing season every year?

Shri A. M. Thomas: Procurement prices have been announced so that there is no further necessity to make any new announcement.

Shri Supakar: Though Orissa and West Bengal have been made into one zone, may I know why there is such a great disparity in the prices prevailing in those States all through these months?

Shri S. K. Patil: As I have made it so clear in this House, again and again, the joining of Orissa with West Bengal is not 100 per cent natural because the deficit of Bengal is much more than the surplus of Orissa. Therefore, we can get some results but they cannot be to the entire satisfaction to eliminate all these differences.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: The wholesale prices have been given and the retail prices will possibly be roundabout Rs. 29. What were the prevailing prices on 25-6-59 last year.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Last year as far as the index goes, in August 1959, the index was 112:7 for rice and it is now 114:1.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: I do not want the index; I want the prices.

Shri A. M. Thomas: For which States and which places?

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: For West Bengal on 25. 6. 1959.

Shri A. M. Thomas: The price was varying from Rs. 26 to Rs. 30.4.0.

Shri Supakar: May I know if inspite of the fact that Orissa is tagged on to West Bengal, the prices in West Bengal have not gone down appreciably whereas the prices in Orissa have been steadily increasing? If so, what is the cause?

Shri S. K. Patil: We are examining this question with the Orissa Government almost from month to month and I do not think that all that is said is correct that the prices have risen to a point where it really causes any danger or where we should have a revision of that policy.

Shri Kalika Singh: May I know if the decline in prices of foodgrains in May and June 1960 was directly due to the deal with the USA under PL 480?

Shri S. K. Patil: I think it may be to a certain extent because there is plenty of wheat. But that declining process if it was only restricted to that and not to other elements coming in, will be a continuing feautre. But the prices do not always depend on grains alone. They depend upon other circumstances too.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: While considering the proposal to wash away the zones may I know whether it has also been considered about the necessity of cordoning off the cities with a population of five lakhs and more?

Shri S. K. Patil: What I said was not washing away all zones. I was talking about the restrictions on wheat time Zones were not necessary. I am looking forward to a time when I shall have to come before this House very soon when the prices will go down and we shall have to protect the farmers everywhere from the falling prices. For that purpose, something else will have to be done.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: May I know whether the Government is aware that all the foodgrains which were exported from Orissa to West Bengal really found their market in West Bengal or whether they were hoarded and blackmarketed or smuggled to East Pakistan?

Shri A. M. Thomas: There is no question of black-marketing in West Bengal now because the controls with regard to prices have been lifted.

Shri Yadav Narayan Jadhav: May I know whether it is a fact that the local wheat or the atta of local wheat is not available in any of the fair price or other shops in Delhi or in other places in the country?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is not correct. Any quantity of wheat needed is being made available.

Shri Indrajit Gupta: May I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that when talks were being held between the West Bengal Government and the Government of Orissa recently regarding the movement of rice from Orissa to Bengal, the spokesmen of the Orissa Government publickly declared that there seemed to be no justification for the gap between the prices in Orissa and the prices in West Bengal?

Shri S. K. Patil: Maybe. I do not know what exactly their talks were. I have no report of the talks. So far as the position of Orissa is concerned Orissa has got a stock of rice which will have to be sold to West Bengal.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: From the statement it appears that in eight States the prices have risen since June. In U.P. also it is so. In view of the hon. Minister's statement that there is no shortage, why are the prices going up in these States?

Shri S. K. Patil: I have again and again said that the prices of foodgrains do not entirely depend upon foodgrains alone because there are other things also. The hon. Member here mentioned one such thing. The value of the rupee might have gone down. These are all factors that go into it. But I may make a statement of fact that so far as wheat is concerned there is no dearth of wheat nor is there going to be any.

Shri D. C. Sharma: From the statement I find that prices have been listed only with reference to one place in every State. For instance the price of Punjab is listed with reference to Moga only. Is it not a fact that the prices at Moga are more favourable than the prices at other places? What is the criterion adopted by the Government to arrive at the index of the food prices? Is it that they depend upon those mandis where the prices are the lowest or on the other mandis also where the prices are higher?

Shri A. M. Thomas: It is not possible to give the prices in all the centres in all the States. We have made some selections. These centres have also assumed All India importance and so we have given only the All-India centres. But for Punjab we have given two centres: Moga as well as Abohar.

Sea Island "Andrews" Cotton

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*280. **Shri Vasudevan Nair:**
Shri Warior:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2406 on the 21st April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have taken any further steps to stabilise the price level of Sea Island "Andrews" variety cotton before the crop comes for auction;

(b) whether Government have prepared any other schemes to encourage more extensive cultivation of this variety; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No.

(b) No.

(c) Does not arise.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: May I know whether the cultivation of this cotton has suffered due to the sharp fall in prices last year?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: No, Sir. I think it has increased by three times. The year before last we had grown only 200 bales of this cotton but this year we have grown 600 bales and we intend to grow 25,000 bales in the coming year.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: What is the demand of this variety of cotton in our country and what is the actual production?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: It is estimated that if we grow nearly two lakh bales of this long-staple variety which India has to import now, it would be sufficient for us. We can think of exporting the long staple cotton if we grow more.

Shri Tangamani: On a previous occasion we were told that in Kerala in 3055 acres this type of cotton is grown. May I know whether this acreage has increased? May I also know whether the Indian Central Cotton Committee has said that the price of Rs. 2,250 per candy is at a lower level and whether any higher price has been fixed, based on tender and not on auction?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: This 3000 acres was last year's acreage; this year it will be 30,000 acres. Out of this nearly 20,000 acres are expected to be in Kerala itself and the rest 10,000 acres in Mysore State. Regarding the price, I may say that from the first year I am associated with and in the beginning 2-3 years ago, I visited almost every plot where this variety of cotton was grown in Nilambur, Trichur, Palghat, etc. We got 60 bales in the first year. I invited businessmen from Calcutta, Ahmedabad and Bombay and conducted an auction in Coimbatore and I requested the merchants to give more price as a sort of encouragement to the farmers and they offered a price of Rs. 3,500 per candy as against Rs. 1,000 for our other cotton in the country. That was not the real price but it was done just to encourage the cotton growers. They were generous and offered Rs. 3,500 but we cannot hope to get that price every year. The price of this cotton is nearly double that of the other varieties in India.

Shri Tangamani: Sir, last time the auction price was Rs. 2,250 and the Indian Central Cotton Committee felt that it was at a lower level and that instead of putting it into auction tenders must be invited. I would like to know what is the present price, whether it is only Rs. 2,250 or more.

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: All the last year's variety of cotton has been sold this year during the last three months at the rate of Rs. 1,900 to Rs. 2,250 per candy. We feel that the price is comparable with the price of the same type of long staple cotton imported from Egypt or other countries to India. So there is no need for the growers of Sea Island "Andrews" to be alarmed about it, they are still getting a very good profit.

Shri Amjad Ali: In view of the fact that long staple cotton is easing our export market, may I know whether Government is thinking of reducing the export tax on long staple cotton?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: We are not exporting long staple cotton, we are importing long staple cotton. India exports short staple cotton. This variety of cotton is in fact only grown in the West Indies, in the Andrews Island. For the first time in 1953, during Shri Kidwai's time, we got only 12 seeds. Out of those 12 seeds we have multiplied 1,200 million seeds and very soon we expect to multiply it to 1,200 crores seeds. We want to see that we are self-sufficient in long staple cotton and save nearly Rs. 40 crores to Rs. 50 crores that India gives to other countries in importing long staple cotton.

Shri Tyagi: Are Mysore and Kerala the only fortunate States which have been favoured by nature with a suitable soil for this seed, or other States can also grow it?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: As I said, in the whole world this variety is grown in the West Indies, in the Andrews Island. Mysore and Kerala being situated in the lower regions of the Western Ghats seem to enjoy the same climate—humidity, heavy rainfall etc. In these two States it has come up very well. We tried some exploratory plots both in Madras and Andhra. They say that there also it grows very well. In Assam also it comes up well, and we have a plan to extend it to these three States. But in U.P. it can never come up.

Shri Sugandhi: May I know the actual staple length of this cotton and how it compares with the cotton grown in Andrews Island?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: The other best varieties in India like the Luxmi and Rajapalayam cotton come up to

1·16 in staple length whereas this cotton has grown up to 1:5, the longest staple in the world compared with any other variety of cotton in the world. It is found that this variety can be grown in these four or five States in India.

Shri Tangamani: What is the estimated cost of production per acre? We were told on the previous occasion that it will be roughly Rs. 300 per acre. May I know whether it is more or less now?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: What the hon. Member says is correct. Roughly it works out to about Rs. 300 per acre, whereas the yields have gone up in some cases to 1,000 pounds fetching nearly Rs. 2,000 per acre. So far an investment on cost of production of about Rs. 300 per acre a farmer is likely to get somewhere between Rs. 600 to Rs. 2,000 per acre.

Shri Vasudevan Nair: We are glad that the Government is trying to encourage cultivation of this variety. Is the Government aware that there is great difficulty experienced by the peasants because they do not get the fertiliser, the spraying apparatus and other necessities in time? Unless they get these things in time the entire crop is lost. May I know whether the Government is taking steps to see that centres are established in the villages where the spraying apparatus and other things can be had in time?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: In fact, as far as this question is concerned it is the other way about. We have kept enough fertilisers and seeds in Trichur, in Mangalore and various other places on either side of the Western Ghats. We have appointed one Shri Iyengar, Special Officer in charge of it. We have given him enough seeds. He always carries seeds and fertilisers, but the farmers do not come forward because this is a new type of crop and unless they see that their neighbours cultivate and get profit they are not coming forward to take it up.

Storage of Foodgrains

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*281. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:**
Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi:
Shri Prakash Vir Shastri:
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Kodiyan:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri V. P. Nayar:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri N. R. Muniswamy:
Shri Ramakrishna Reddy:
Shri Arjun Singh Bhadauria:
Shri Subiman Ghose:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether storage capacity is available for the intended buffer stock of foodgrains to be maintained in India;

(b) if not, the shortage that is expected; and

(c) how it would be possible to meet it?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) to (c). At present the storage accommodation available with the Government is about 2 million tons, which is sufficient to meet the present needs. Steps have been and are being taken to increase the storage accommodation by hiring whatever suitable additional accommodation may be available on hire and by construction of new godowns of different types.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know whether the new godowns which are intended to be constructed would be of the type which would only last up to the target date of self-sufficiency, or would they be of a permanent nature?

Shri A. M. Thomas: They will be of a permanent nature.

Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: The hon. Deputy Minister stated that the storage capacity at present is about 2 million tons of foodgrains. But the Government propose to import five million tons of foodgrains. Again, there is also the indigenous production which the Government is acquiring. I would like to know whether the Government is now in a position to store all the foodgrains that will be imported under this agreement; if so, may I know what amount has so far been imported under this agreement?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The capacity that has been indicated by me does not take into account the capacity that is at the disposal of the various State Governments. In fact, some wheat is being procured by some State Governments. Therefore, my hon. friend need not be anxious about the storage capacity for the wheat acquired from within the country. With regard to the other matter, although we are proposing to build up a buffer-stock of 5 million tons and we have also entered into an agreement with America for import of 17 million tons in the course of four years, the import in any particular year will depend upon the internal production, the internal demand for imported grains, availability of storage accommodation etc. We are on this question of storage and we are taking all necessary steps. In the capacity that has been mentioned by me we are also not taking into account the storage capacity in the pipe line, that is, in the ports, docks and other things. That will come to about 5 lakhs to 6 lakhs tons. We are also trying to expand our capacity by higher stacking of bags in construction godowns, construction of bulk storage such as silos and what is called flat storage and also, what is called, construction of conventional type of godowns. We have already approved the construction of an additional capacity of 3 million tons.

Shri Ramakrishna Reddy: May I know whether in view of the scarcity conditions prevailing in Rayalaseema the Central Government will reconsider the question of constructing storage godowns at Hindupur?

The Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri S. K. Patil): There are two types of storage accommodation and they must not be confused. One is the capacity for the additional or buffer-stock that we are having. That cannot be had anywhere and everywhere, that can be had at strategic points where it can have desirable results on the price line etc. What the hon. Member is asking about is the kind of storage accommodation in every place. That also is being attended to, but that does not form part of the 2 million tons capacity or 3 million tons capacity that we are discussing.

Shri Thirumala Rao: May I know what is the storage capacity that is reserved at the main ports of import like Bombay, Calcutta and other intermediate ports where foodgrains are brought from abroad?

Shri S. K. Patil: We are thinking that on these ports, especially the big receiving ports, there should be silos, the elevators. That is the best way of doing it because transportation becomes very easy, from the holds of the ships they could be immediately transported in the silos. Silos, again, is the best form of conserving grains. They are costly, but even then we cannot avoid having these silos at the ports. Our present thinking is that as soon as it is possible for us we should have silos at these ports.

Shri Thirumala Rao: What is the total tonnage for which provision is made in all these ports, for accommodation as soon as the grain is imported and before it is disbursed to the various points of consumption?

Shri A. M. Thomas: For example, in Bombay we have a storage capacity of our own of about 75,000 tons. We are proposing to construct a capacity of about 245,000 tons in Bombay. Besides, in Manmad and Borivili areas we are having another 525,000 tons. We have also kept in view the necessity that is in the mind of the hon. Member, namely, the necessity of having adequate storage capacity in the port towns.

Shri Raghunath Singh: May I know how many silos are going to be erected in the ports and the amount that is to be incurred on it?

Shri S. K. Patil: We have not yet decided as to how many silos will be erected. It all depends upon the availability of funds. For silos, the elevator, a part of it will require a component of foreign exchange. It is our desire that at least in big ports like Bombay and Calcutta we should immediately try to have silos, but that is not yet final.

श्री प्रकाश वीर शास्त्री : क्या सरकार ने कोई ऐसी व्यवस्था की है कि खाद्यान्न के आयात से भारतीय खाद्य-पदार्थों का संतुलन यथावत बना रहे, अर्थात उन में कोई विशेष उतार-चढ़ाव न हो ?

श्री स० का० पाटिल: बाहर से जो अन्न आता है और जो वफ़र-स्टाक हम लोग हिन्दुस्तान में बनाना चाहते हैं, उस का नतीजा तो ज़रूर होने वाला है और प्राइसिज़ पर उसका असर होगा—प्राइसिज़ ज्यादा नहीं बढ़ेंगी, क्योंकि वह चीज़ हमारे पास होगी और वह चलेगी। मैं मानता हूं कि वफ़र-स्टाक की हमारी योजना न सिर्फ़ दो तीन बरस की योजना है, बल्कि उस को हमेशा कायम रहना चाहिये। उस का असर हमारी प्राइसिज़ पर पड़ेगा।

Shri Thirumala Rao: In view of the tempo of industrial development in the third Five Year Plan, is the Government taking into consideration the fact that the major ports will be congested and so, if large quantities of foodgrains are imported into the country, intermediate ports also should be developed, wherever there is godown accommodation for storage of grains, like Kakinada, for instance, which was used in 1941 and 1950? Such matters also may be taken into consideration, so that there will not be any undue delay in removing the grains from the ships for storage.

Shri A. M. Thomas: Intermediate ports are also taken into consideration. For instance, we are having some storage construction in Vizag. We will consider Kakinada also in due course.

सेठ अचल सिंह : इस प्रोपोज्ड साइलों की कितनी कैपेसिटी होगी और उस पर ख़र्चा कितना पड़ेगा ?

Shri A. M. Thomas: The silo that we have got in Hapur is of 10,000 ton capacity. We are proposing to have silos upto 50,000 ton capacity.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: We have read in the papers that it has been decided to have a silo in the eastern States in Kalyani. May I know whether that silo is going to stock rice and what will be capacity?

Shri S. K. Patil: Silo does not yet stock rice, if you mean the elevator, because that has not been done anywhere. These experiments were not necessary in other countries, because rice is not stocked. These silos are for wheat. But there can be flat storages which are air-conditioned, with the temperature and humidity regulated. It will not be as best as silos, but it is quite a desirable storage. All these matters are under investigation and no final decision of any particular thing has been taken.

Shri Heda: The buffer stock is for about 5 million tons and there is going to be import of about 17 million tons in the course of the next four years. The present storage capacity is only 2 million tons. So far the Minister was not able to give us a clear idea as to how much capacity they are considering to have and at what places?

Shri A. M. Thomas: I have already said that the additional capacity—the capacity sanctioned for reconstruction capacity sanctioned fo rconstruction—will come to about 3 million tons.

There will be pipe-line capacity of about 5 to 6 lakh tons and there is also hired accommodation. That will be sufficient.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : अध्यक्ष जी, मुझे भी एक प्रश्न पूछने का अवसर दीजिये।

अध्यक्ष महोदय : आप को नहीं दूंगा । मैं माननीय सदस्य को हमेशा अवसर देता हूं, लेकिन अब नहीं दे सकता हूं । माफ़ कीजिये ।

Raipur Telephone Exchange

*282. **Shri Vidya Charan Shukla:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether complaints have been received that a few Telephone Operators at Raipur Exchange intercept conversations of certain telephone numbers; and

(b) if so, the action taken in the matter?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) One such complaint has been received.

(b) Investigations show that there has been no deliberate interception and tapping of telephone numbers.

Shri Vidya Charan Shukla: May I know who made the enquiries—whether an officer from the P.M.G.'s office or the local telephone authorities?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: As I said, investigations show that there are no such deliberate interceptions. Because of a defect in the machine, the talk was interrupted and he was put back. As a matter of fact, the telephone operator was rude to the person and we have taken action against that telephone operator.

श्री सरजू पांडेय : क्या यह सही है कि खास खास टेलीफोन-एक्सचेंज आफिसों में खास टेलीफोन करने वाले लोगों के टेलीफ़ोन मैसेज टैप किये जाते हैं ?

Mr. Speaker: Is there also tapping of messages?

Dr. P. Subbarayan: I know of no such instances.

New Design Sleeper Coaches

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*283. **Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:**
Shri Bibhuti Mishra:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state the progress made in the manufacture of the proposed new design third class sleeper coaches meant for passengers travelling over 500 miles?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): 70 Broad Gauge and 19 Metre Gauge coaches have been completed.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: On these new type of coaches, is it a fact that the passengers will not be charged this surcharge of Rs. 3 that they are now required to pay?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: If the distance to be travelled is over 500 miles.

श्री विभूति मिश्र : मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि मीटर गेज में जो नये टाइप का स्लीपर कोच लगाया गया है, क्या वह उसी ढंग का है, जो कि जनता गाड़ियों में है , या किसी खास दूसरे ढंग का है ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : यह तीन टायर का स्लीपर कोच है । इस में तीन सोने की जगहें हैं ।

पंडित द्वा० ना० तिवारी : इस का थ्री-टायर नाम रखा गया है । मैं यह जानना चाहता हूं कि तीसरे टायर में जो लोग सोयें, क्या उन के लिये उतरने, चढ़ने और सामान रखने की व्यवस्था की जायेगी ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : उन के लिये कुछ सहूलियत बहम पहुंचाई जायेगी ।

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: May I know whether the Government have calculated the total requirements if such coaches are attached to all the janata expresses and whether they will be able to meet the entire requirements in the next two or three years?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: We are starting with 200 such coaches. We shall see how they gain popularity and later on, if it is necessary, that can be extended.

श्रीमती कृष्णा मेहता : क्या काश्मीर-मेल तथा श्रीनगर एक्सप्रेस में यह स्लीपर कोच लगाने का विचार है ?

अध्यक्ष महोदय : यह अलग बात है ।

श्री ना० नि० पटेल : क्या मैं जान सकता हूं कि जो न्यू डिजाइन के स्लीपर कोच बन रहे हैं, या बनने वाले हैं, उन में इलैक्ट्रिक फैन्ज लगाये जायेंगे, या नहीं । अभी डी-लक्स ट्रेन्ज में जो स्लीपर-कोच लगे हैं, उन में भी फैन्ज नहीं लगाये गये हैं, जिस के कारण पैसन्जर्स को बड़ी तकलीफ होती है तो नये डिजाइन के कोचेज में फैन्ज लगाये जायेंगे या नहीं ?

श्री शाहनवाज खां : जरूर लगेंगे ।

Shri Tangamani *rose*—

Mr. Speaker: I cannot allow Shri Tangamani to put supplementaries on every question. (*Interruption*). Then I will have to ask all other hon. Members to keep quiet, so that the whole hour may be spent on him. Shri Prabhat Kar.

Shri Prabhat Kar: May I know whether the Government is thinking in terms of providing sleeper coaches in all long journey trains and for that, how long it will take to complete the production of the new design sleeper coaches?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: That is the idea. But, as I said, we are making a start with 200 coaches. I have a long list of the sections on which this will be run and other sections on which it is proposed to be run.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: May I know how many people are expected to be accommodated in each coach?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: In the broad gauge, it will have 75 berths and in the metre gauge 64.

श्रीमती कृष्णा मेहता : श्रीमन्, मेरे प्रश्न का उत्तर नहीं मिला है ।

रेलवे मंत्री (श्री जगजीवन राम) : वे सभी गाड़ियों में लगाये जायेंगे, जो कि दूर तक जाती हैं ।

Shrimati Parvathi Krishnan: Is there going to be any arrangement for any attendants to be present in these coaches also?

Shri Shahnawaz Khan: There will be one conductor in charge of each coach.

Silting of Bhakra Reservoir

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***284.** **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Assar:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 437 on the 26th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether any progress has so far been made in the formation of a Joint Board comprising of the representatives of the Himachal Pradesh Administration and Punjab Government to check the silting of the Bhakra reservoir; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) and (b). A statement giving the information is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

The Inter-State (Punjab and Himachal Pradesh) Soil Conservation Coordination Board has since been formed to serve as an agency for coordination, consultation, planning and reviewing all measures connected with soil and water conservation in the Sutlej and Beas Catchment areas. The Board at present comprises of the following members:—

PUNJAB:

(i) Planning Commissioner;
(ii) Secretary, Finance;
(iii) Secretary, Agriculture;
(iv) Chief Conservator of Forests;
(v) Director of Agriculture.

HIMACHAL PRADESH:

(i) Development Commissioner;
(ii) Secretary, Finance;
(iii) Chief Conservator of Forests;
(iv) Director of Agriculture.

The General Manager, Bhakra Dam, attends the meetings of the Board as a representative of the Bhakra Dam Organisation. The Government of India is to be represented by the Senior Director, Central Soil Conservation Board. Further action to finalise and notify the constitution of the Board is being taken by the Government of Punjab. The Board has so far held three meetings.

Shri D. C. Sharma: May I know if the extent of silting of the Bhakra reservoir has been determined so far? If not what steps are being taken to determine the siltage?

Shri Hathi: The extent of silt has been determined. It is estimated that it will take about 580 years to fill the reservoir.

Shri D. C. Sharma: What is the annual rate of silting and what efforts are being made to decrease it?

Shri Hathi: Various measures were taken in the past in the catchment areas to avoid silting in the years 1911, 1916, 1921, 1926, 1932, 1933, 1939, 1950 and so on.

Mr. Speaker: But what is the rate of increase?

Shri Hathi: It depends upon various factors like monsoon etc.

Sardar Iqbal Singh: There is a great difference of opinion between Indian experts and foreign experts on the matter of silting. Will Government appoint some committee and lay on the Table of the House the recommendations of that committee so that everybody may be able to know what will be the life of the Bhakra dam? Now the opinion varies from 100 to 580 years.

Shri Hathi: I do not know about the difference of opinion. But according to our information 580 years is the estimated period.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: Out of the nine persons mentioned in the statement may I know who the silting expert is?

Shri Hathi: The Secretary of the Soil Conservation Board of the Government of India is also a member of this board.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: I am not referring to the Director at the Centre. Out of the 9 persons selected for the purpose is there anyone who is interested and who is an expert on silting?

Shri Hathi: I think all the members are interested in the programme, but the experts might be the Chief Conservators of Forests, Punjab and Himachal Pradesh.

Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi: But he cannot be a silting expert.

Mr. Speaker: That is a matter of opinion.

Silting of Rivers in West Bengal

***285. Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power be pleased to state:**

(a) if the heavy silting up of the lower reaches of rivers Vidyadhari-Malta-Icchamati system in sea-mouth of Sunderbans area in West Bengal is being considered by Government; and

(b) if not, whether Government propose to examine if the Farakka barrage construction will have any salutary effect in scouring these rivers?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether the answer to part (a) is referring to the research that is being carried on for the last so many years in the Poona Research Station and when the results of that research will be available? Will it be before the area gets logged up into a lake?

Shri Hathi: Experiments are being carried on. The West Bengal Government also have consulted a Dutch expert on the problem.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: Are we to understand then that de-silting is going to be carried out in this area by overflowing which means the entire area is going to be depopulated?

Shri Hathi: I do not know which method is going to be adopted. That will depend upon which is most suitable.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: In view of the seriousness of the silting up and in view of the fact that this is the poorest area with only one crop and the whole area depends on 200 miles embankments on the maintenance of which we spent lakhs and lakhs of rupees, may I know whether interim arrangements for dredging operations will also be considered by the Government?

Shri Hathi: No. I think dredging operation would not be a feasible proposition and it would be also uneconomic to maintain the dredging operations. The only way or temporary way of doing this would be to allow the low areas of these tidal compartments in rotation for the tidal spill to run into it and run back to flush out the channels.

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty: May I know whether Government is seriously considering a proposal of removing the entire population of the area for over-flooding?

Shri Hathi: I do not think there is any such proposal.

Shri S. C. Samanta: Is it not a fact that some expert engineers were sent to this sea mouth in Sunderban area? If so, what are their reactions?

Shri Hathi: I have no information.

Decentralisation of Administration in States

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*286. **Shri Harish Chandra Mathur:**
Shri Rami Reddy:
Maharajkumar Vijaya Anand:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) what progress has been made in giving effect to the scheme of decentralisation of administration in the various States;

(b) whether a uniform pattern of three-tier system is being adopted all over; and

(c) whether any observers have been sent to Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh to watch the working of the scheme?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Andhra Pradesh, Madras, Mysore, Orissa, Assam, and Rajasthan have enacted the necessary legislation. In Andhra Pradesh and Rajasthan, statutory bodies have been set up at all the three levels, *viz.*, village, block and district. In Assam, Madras and Mysore States the higher bodies are under various stages of formation. In Madhya Pradesh and Punjab, necessary Bills are before the Legislatures. Uttar Pradesh is also drafting the necessary legislation in this regard which is expected to be introduced in the Vidhan Sabha during the ensuing session. Maharashtra. Gujarat and Bihar have appointed Committees to recommend suitable forms of Panchayati *Raj*.

(b) The principle of three-tier system has been incorporated in all the legislation on democratic decentralisation so far enacted and a large measure of uniformity obtains in other respects also. There are, however, some variations in details. For example, in Assam, the highest body of the three-tier structure is at the Sub-Divisional level instead of the District and in Mysore, the middle body is at the Taluq level instead of the Block.

(c) This Ministry has not sent any observer as such to watch the working of the scheme; but many officials as well as non-officials (belonging to different parties and organisations) have visited and continue to visit Rajasthan and Andhra Pradesh to see how the scheme is working.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Referring to part (c)......

Mr. Speaker: We had a long discussion on this matter only recently.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: I am asking only two questions which have not been covered by the discussion. What is the nature of the report which they have already received about the working in both these States?

Shri B. S. Murthy: The reports are very encouraging.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: In view of the fact that this democratic decentralisation has released a lot of mass energy may I know whether any matching provision has been made to utilize the energy so that when the programmes are drawn up they do not get stuck up? Have we made any increased provision? Have we done anything there in addition to what we are doing elsewhere?

716 (Ai) LSD—2.

Shri B. S. Murthy: The original idea of constituting the three tier system of democratic decentralisation was that it would release sufficient energy from the people so that provision already made will be fully utilized. That is being done.

Shri Tangamani: At what stage is the Bill in Kerala on Panchayat *Raj* and Zilla Parishads? Was it referred to the Select Committee?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I want notice.

Shri Raghubir Sahai: Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that the attitude of the district collectors as a rule is hardening up against the scheme of democratic decentralisation even though in some of the States it has not actually been introduced? If it is so, what steps are going to be taken by the Ministry to counteract this contigency?

Shri B. S. Murthy: I do not think that as a rule every collector is opposed to democratic decentralisation. There may be some who are opposed to this. If many district collectors are opposed to this, naturally the State Governments will take good care to see that they do not stand in the way of Panchayat *Raj* being established.

Shri Rami Reddy: The primary object of democratic decentralisation is to entrust more and more powers with the people. In some States the Collector is the head of the institution. Are Government going to advise the State Governments that non-officials should be the chairmen of this institution?

Shri B. S. Murthy: Yes, Sir. Necessary advice is being given by the Ministry to State Governments to see that all responsibility is vested in non-official chairmen.

Shri Venkatasubbaiah: In order to assess the difficulties that come in the way of the working of democratic decentralisation, does the Government propose to convene a seminar of the various Panchayat Samiti Presidents and Zilla Parishad Chairmen in each

State under the auspices of the Ministry of Community Development so that all the difficulties can be discussed, they may come to a common pattern and co-ordination may be effected?

Shri B. S. Murthy: In order to obviate such difficulties, all State Governments who have already implemented Panchayati *raj* are holding seminars. The hon. Member knows very well that in Andhra and in other States also the Panchayat Samiti Chairmen and the Zilla Parishad members are being given an opportunity to discuss the difficulties and to find out solutions. Rajasthan had a tremendous programme before the introduction of democratic decentralisation.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

बम्बई के ट्रक मालिकों की हड़ताल

***२७२. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :** क्या **परिवहन तथा संचार** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करें कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि गत अप्रैल, १९६० में बम्बई के ट्रक मालिकों की हड़ताल के कारण बम्बई गोदी में माल लाने ले जाने का कार्य ठप्प हो गया था; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो सरकार ने माल लाने ले जाने के लिये क्या प्रबन्ध किया था ?

परिवहन तथा संचार मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री राज बहादुर) : (क) और (ख). पिछली अप्रैल, १९६० में बम्बई में ट्रक मालिकों की हड़ताल के कारण यहां की गोदी पर माल ढोने का काम ठप्प नहीं हुआ था। जो माल आसानी से ले जाया जा सकता था वह व्यापारियों द्वारा ठेलों व बैलगाड़ियों द्वारा ले जाया गया और जो दूर भेजा जाने के लिये था वह इन के द्वारा रेलगाड़ियों से ढोया गया। सरकार ने अनाज रेलों व लारियों के जरिये भेजा। ये लारियां सेना के स्थानीय अधिकारियों से प्राप्त की गयी थीं।

Diesel Traction on Railways

***275. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme for extension of Diesel traction has been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Telegraph Enquiry Committee

*276. { **Shri Rameshwar Tantia:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Pangarkar:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 772 on the 7th March, 1960, and state:

(a) whether Government have since examined the recommendations of the Telegraph Enquiry Committee; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Committee deal with a number of important issues. Orders have been issued on a number of minor matters. Some of the major recommendations are under review in the light of the recommendations of the 2nd Pay Commission. It is hoped to take a decision within the next three months. I shall place a statement on the final results of the examination of the Report soon after decisions on all recommendations are finalised.

मलेरिया

***२७८. श्री नरदेव स्नातक** : क्या **स्वास्थ्य** मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) वर्ष १६५६-६० में मलेरिया निरोध के कार्य पर कितना व्यय हुआ;

(ख) वर्ष १६५६-६० में कितने लोगों को मलेरिया हुआ और कितने लोग रोग-मुक्त हुए ;

(ग) क्या यह सच है कि मलेरिया निरोधी औषधियों से जितने मच्छर पहले मारे जाते थे अब उस की तुलना में कम मारे जाते हैं; और

(घ) यदि उपरोक्त भाग (ग) का उत्तर हां में हो, तो सरकार इस सम्बन्ध मे क्या प्रयत्न कर रही है ताकि मलेरिया समूल नष्ट हो जाये ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री श्री (करमरकर) : (क) लगभग १२६८.०६ लाख रुपये ।

(ख) देश के विभिन्न अस्पतालों तथा औषधालयों में वि[illegible]निकी निदान किये गये मलेरिया के लगभग २० लाख रोगियों का इलाज किया गया । किसी अस्पताल अथवा औषधालय में न जाने वाले मलेरिया के रोगियों की संख्या ज्ञात नहीं और न रोग मुक्त हुए रोगियों की संख्या के बारे में कोई सूचना ही उपलब्ध है ।

(ग) जी नहीं।

(घ) यह प्रश्न नहीं उठता।

Minicoy Light house

*287. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state whether the transfer by Britain to India of Minicoy Lighthouse on Minicoy Island has been completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): The Minicoy Lighthouse was transferred to the Government of India *de facto* on the 3rd April 1956 by the Government of the United Kingdom. The *de-jure* transfer of the lighthouse is expected to take place shortly.

Augmentation of Water Resources Committee Report

*288. { **Shri Pangarkar:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1373 on the 23rd March, 1960; and state:

(a) whether the Augmentation of Water Resources Committee set up under the Chairmanship of Shri S.D. Khungar by Damodar Valley Corporation has submitted its report; and

(b) if so, the recommendations thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir,

(b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Some of the main recommendations are:—

(1) The detailed investigation for Aiyar Dam be carried out.

(2) Investigations for the diversion of water from Ajoy to Damodar Basin should also be conducted simultaneously.

(3) Detailed data should be collected and analysed every year and final approval to undertake the execution of the Aiyar Dam should depend upon the results of investigations and the data collected and analysed in 1959, 1960 and 1961.

Some of the other recommendations are:

(a) 50 to 100 cusecs of water depending upon the season may be escaped below Durgapur for domestic consumption.

(b) The total requirements of water for industrial and domestic uses may be assessed at 1,000 cusecs.

(c) The additional storage to be provided for in the Damodar reservoirs to meet all requirements, including domestic and industrial purposes, was estimated at 1·38 million acre feet.

(d) The improvement of drainage to facilitate quick removal of flood water from the lower valley was stressed and the preparation of an integrated plan for flood control and drainage improvement in the lower valley was recommended.

(e) The establishment of a Lower Damodar Conservancy Board with executive powers to look after various measures in the valley or alternatively extension of jurisdiction of Damodar Valley Corporation to this area was recommended.

(f) Work on soil conservation of catchment area above Durgapur should be speeded up.

More Paddy through Music

***289. Shri Bibhuti Mishra:**
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Pondicherry Government have shown through experiments that musically stimulated paddy plants have a better growth and give large yields;

(b) whether Government have detailed account of growth and yields of paddy in this manner; and

(c) whether Government contemplate to undertake such experiments on a large scale?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) The Director of Agriculture Pondicherry has recently reported that on the basis of an experiment conducted by the State Department of Agriculture at four centres musical excitation is effective in enhancing the percentage of yield of paddy. This claim has not however been verified by the Government of India.

(b) In a report on the results of experiment on paddy received from Pondicherry Administration the percentage of increase in grain and straw yield for the musically excited paddy is claimed to have ranged from 22% to 58% and 30% to 62% respectively.

(c) Dr. T. C. N. Singh of Annamalai University under whose supervision the above experiment is reported to have been conducted has been invited by the Government of India to give a practical demonstration of his technique at the Indian Agricultural Research Institute New, Delhi. After the validity of his technique has been verified, the desirability and practicability or otherwise of conducting such experiments on a large scale will be considered.

Sleeping Accommodation in Waiting Rooms

***290. Shri Keshava:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state whether any sleeping accommodation is provided in the III Class waiting rooms on payment at least at junctions?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): No, Sir.

Ahmedabad—Kandla National Highway

*291. { **Shri Khimji:**
Shri Achar:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that completion of the National Highway linking Ahmedabad with Kandla is held up because the construction of a bridge at Surbari over the Rann of Kutch has not been taken up in hand; and

(b) if so, what are the reasons for not constructing the bridge so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No. sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Foodgrains for Assam

*292. { **Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Shri Amjad Ali:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Assam Government have approached the Union Government to allot one lakh tons of foodgrains to meet the shortage which occurred due to persistent drought in the State; and

(b) if so, the reaction of Government thereto?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Yes Sir, originally the Assam Government requested supply of one lakh tons of rice but later on after discussion agreed that 25,000 tons of rice may be supplied for the present. This quantity has been allotted from Central stocks.

"Pushtow" Barges for the Brahamputra

*293. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1623 on the 21st April, 1960 and state whether necessary foreign exchange has since been made available to the Assam Government to invite an expert from the U.S.A. to examine the feasibility of introducing "Pushtow" barge as a form of easy water transport in the Brahamputra?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): Yes. The expert will advise the State Government on the question of development of I.W.T in Assam.

Jet Planes for A.I.I.

*294. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to purchase more jet planes for the Air India International; and

(b) if so, what is the type of the plane which is proposed to be bought?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) This question is now engaging the attention of the Corporation.

Promotion of S.C. and S.T. Railway Employees

*295. { **Shri Tyagi:**
Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Madhusudan Rao:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state what consequential steps have Government taken in regard to the judgment recently delivered by the Madras High Court to to the effect that the preferential treatment given to the Railway employees of the Scheduled Castes at the time of promotions from one grade to another was unconstitutional?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): Government have since filed an appeal in the Supreme Court against the judgment of the Madras High Court.

Agricultural Implements

*296. **Shri R. C. Majhi:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the agricultural implements which are exhibited in the various agricultural exhibitions are not available to the farmers in the markets; and

(b) what steps Government have taken for the production, distribution and popularisation of improved agricultural implements among the farmers?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (b). Yes, the Government proposes to intensify work on research, production and demonstration of improved agricultural implements during the Third Five Year Plan period.

Long Trains

*297. **Pandit D. N. Tiwari:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1080 on the 21st December, 1959 regarding long trains, and state:

(a) the result of the trials with train loads upto 6,800 tons;

(b) whether Government propose to introduce such trains; and

(c) whether any such trials have been undertaken on metre gauge?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Only one trial has so far been conducted with a train load of 6800 tons. Further trials have been conducted with loads of 3,000/3,500 tons and these have indicated:

(i) that longer and heavier trains than at present, can be worked with vacuum brakes; and have also given some indication of the directions in which the present vacuum brake system should be improved;

(ii) the necessity for maintaining proper communication between the front and the rear locomotive.

(b) The loads of goods trains will be increased as and when required.

(c) Yes, but with loads of the order of 2000 tons against the existing maximum loads of about 1200 tons.

U.K.-India Postal Services

*298. **Shrimati Renuka Ray:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Letter-Telegram Service between the U.K. and India has been suspended; and

(b) if so, at whose instance has this been done and for what period?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). The Letter-Telegram Service to and from the United Kingdom was temporarily suspended from the 11th May to the 5th June, 1960, at the request of the U.K. authorities. During that period they had staff shortage and heavy accumulation of traffic at their end. The service was, however, restored from the 6th June.

Employees at Santa Cruz Airport

*299. **Shri Parulekar:**
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri S. A. Mehdi:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a large number of employees at Santa Cruz Airport restored to mass abstention from work for a day in May, 1960; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) Yes, Sir. Certain non-gazetted operating personnel at the Aeronautical Communication Station, Santa Cruz, due in the shift starting at 2200 hours. on the 11th May, 1960 and in the next three shifts i.e. upto 2200 hrs. on the 12th May, 1960 sent their applications for casual leave on grounds of illness.

(b) Although the reasons for this mass abstention were not revealed by the staff, it is presumed that the step was taken as a protest against the delay in the installation of the air conditioning plant in the Wireless Cabin.

D.V.C. Irrigation Canals

*300. **Shri Tridib Kumar Chaudhuri:**
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri Halder:
Shri Subiman Ghose:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri Assar:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 136 on the 15th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether it is a fact that some delay has occurred in the proposed transfer of the D.V.C. irrigation canals in the West Bengal area to the Government of West Bengal owing to certain differences between the D.V.C. and the West Bengal Government;

(b) what are the points at issue in this respect between the two parties; and

(c) whether there is any early possibility of a resolution of these differences and the proposed transfer of D.V.C. Canals to West Bengal being effected this year?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) There has been some delay in the transfer of the D.V.C. Canal System in the West Bengal area to the Government of West Bengal primarily due to the desire of the West Bengal Government that damages caused to the Canal System during 1959 floods should be repaired by the Corporation prior to such transfer.

(b) and (c). There are no differences between the D.V.C. and the Government of West Bengal on the question of transfer of Canal System. According to present indications, the transfer is expected to be effected by 1st December, 1960.

Sugar for Kerala

*301. **Shri Jinachandran:**
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what steps Government are taking to make available sufficient quantities of sugar to meet the demand in Kerala; and

(b) what is the monthly allotment of sugar to Kerala?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) The monthly allotment of sugar to Kerala has been increased from time to time. It was 4,000 tons in November 1959 and was increased to 5,000 tons from December, to 5,500 tons in May and to 6,000 tons from June. An *ad-hoc* additional allotment of 2,000 tons was made in June 1960 to serve as a reserve. It has also been decided to make allotments to this State a month in advance so as to cover possible delays in transit from North Indian factories.

(b) 6,000 tons.

Railway Sleepers

***302. Shri Raman:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 142 on the 15th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether in accordance with the terms of the contract agreement the firm has replaced the sleepers which developed cracks; and

(b) if so, the amount involved in such replacement?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Not yet, Sir. The matter is under correspondence with the firm.

(b) Does not arise.

Panel of Engineers for Irrigation and Power Projects

***303. Shri Tangamani:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1219 on the 1st April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Panel of outstanding Engineers for consultation on problems pertaining to Irrigation and Power projects is being utilised now for the projects;

(b) if so, the names of the projects;

(c) whether there is a proposal to get the services of such Engineers from States like Madras and Mysore; and

(d) if so, the steps taken to utilise their talents?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Consultants' advice was sought in regard to the following projects:

(i) Broach Irrigation Project.
(ii) Tawa Project.
(iii) Gas Turbine Installation at Naharkatiya (Assam).

(c) Selection of Consultants is not based on consideration of State of origin. There is no proposal at present to add to the existing panel of Consultants.

(d) Does not arise.

Shipping Freight Rates

***304. Shri Indrajit Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether certain members of the Indian Coastal Conference have demanded abnormally high freight rates for shipping rice from Visakhapatnam to Calcutta; and

(b) if so, what action Government have taken in the matter?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The Coastal Conference had originally demanded a freight rate of Rs. 28 per ton on liner basis for carrying rice cargo from Visakhapatnam to Calcutta, as against their own scheduled rate of Rs. 24.50 nP. per ton. On reconsideration, however, the Conference have now agreed to accept their tariff rate of Rs. 24·50 nP. subject to review of this rate in December, 1960.

Nagas' Attacks on Railways

*305. **Shri Hem Barua:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:
Shrimati Mafida Ahmed:
Shri S. M. Banerjee:
Shri Raghunath Singh:
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Basumatari:
Shri C. K. Bhattacharya:
Shri Bishwanath Roy:
Shri Hem Raj:
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Aurobindo Ghosal:
Shri Amjad Ali:
Shri Rajendra Singh:
Shri Ramji Verma:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total number of times the train services between

Pandu and Dibrugarh remained disrupted recently due to hostile Nagas attacking running trains;

(b) what is the total number of incidents and railwaymen killed or injured due to activities of the hostile Nagas;

(c) what were the steps taken to avoid such incidents and resume the disrupted train services as speedily as possible;

(d) whether any compensation has been paid to the injured and the families of the dead;

(e) whether any steps of a permanent nature have been taken to avoid recrudescence of such incidents in future; and

(f) if so, the nature thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT

(a) and (b). There have been two such incidents namely, one on 24th May 1960 and another on 1st June 1960, resulting in the death of one railway servant and injuries to 5 others. While, after the first incident only a couple of trains suffered detention there was considerable dislocation to traffic as a result of the second incident.

(c) (i) Military patrolling on Lumding-Mariani Section, was intensified and more out posts were set up to protect vulnerable spots.

(ii) Every possible protection was given to the running as well as station staff working in the disturbed area and armed escorts were provided on the trains running on the affected section.

(iii) The engines have been fitted with steel plates shutters and sand bags placed in the brake vans to provide protection to the running staff against bullets.

(iv) Jungles upto 100 feet on either side of the track in the vulnerable area are being cleared to increase visibility.

(d) Yes, besides an *ex-gratia* payment of Rs. 200 to the family of the deceased railway servant and Rs. 100 each to the injured, an award of Rs. 10,000 has also been sanctioned to the widow of the deceased in the form of annuity.

(e) and (f). Preventive measures mentioned in reply to part (c) above, would continue to be taken so long as considered necessary.

Family Planning

*306. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Padam Dev:
Shri Abdul Salam:
Shri Hem Barua:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 407 on the 26th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have received the report of the Committee appointed to review the work of family planning; and

(b) if so, the main recommendations therein?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) A statement containing the required information is laid on the table of the Sabha. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 80.]

Railway Line for Dandakaranya

*307. **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Dr. Ram Subhag Singh:
Shri Madhusudan Rao:
Shri Jangde:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 524 on the 2nd

March, 1960 regarding Railway line for Dandakaranya and state the progress made in the consideration of the suggestion for alignment of the railway line to Rayagada?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): The Survey is still in progress and all alternative alignments including that via Rayagada will be considered before the final alignment is selected.

U. N. Statistical Year Book, 1959

*308. **Shrimati Renu Chakravartty:**
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri P. K. Deo:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to the U.N. Statistical Year Book, 1959 which shows India as the worst fed among 40 Nations which supplied statistics to U.N.; and

(b) the reason as to why the consumption rate in 1954-56 is less than the pre-war figures in 1934-38?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes Sir. The U.N. Statistical Year Book indicates that the *per capita* consumption of cereals in India in 1954-56 was higher than in 27 out of the 42 countries listed therein, that India was nearly at the top in regard to consumption of pulses but that the availability was low in respect of meat, milk, sugar, fats and oils.

(b) It is mainly in respect of the intake of milk and meat that a decline is indicated in 1954-56 as compared to 1934-38; the intake of cereals and pulses taken together was practically the same in 1954-56 while that of sugar, fats and oils was higher.

The data for the two periods are not, however, strictly comparable as 1934-38 data relate to undivided India while that for 1954-56 relate to the Indian Union.

Refixation of Water Rates

*309. **Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1136 on the 28th March, 1960 and state whether replies from the remaining States have so far been received regarding refixation of water rates?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): Replies from the Governments of Andhra Pradesh, Mysore, Kerala, Punjab, Uttar Pradesh and West Bengal have since been received. The question of refixation of water rates is still under their consideration.

Electricity for Kerala

*310. **Shri A. K. Gopalan:**
Shri Narayanankutty Menon:
Shri V. P. Nayar:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the total foreign exchange allocation proposed by the Kerala Government for its programmes for the development of Electricity in the Second Five Year Plan and the actual allocation made; and

(b) whether any preference is given to Kerala State in this regard in view of non-availability of coal or lignite in the State?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Total foreign exchange estimated for power schemes by Kerala Government for the Second Plan period is Rs. 514.69 lakhs. Actual allocation made upto 31st December, 1959 is Rs. 335.423 lakhs.

(b) No, Sir.

Price of rice in Kerala

*311. **Shri Narayanankutty Menon:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware of the rise in the price of rice in Kerala;

(b) whether any request has been made by the State Government for supply of rice stocks; and

(c) if so, what action has been taken on the request?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) There has been a slight seasonal rise in the prices of rice which generally occurs during this lean period of the year.

(b) and (c). Yes, Sir; In response to the request of the State Government, it has been agreed to increase to quantity to be supplied to Kerala during the year 1960 to 190000 tons.

Passes for candidates for Railway Services

*312. **Shri Tyagi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any railway passes are issued to such candidates as have to travel long distances to appear for competitive examinations or interviews before the Railway Service Commission; and

(b) if so, whether any preferential treatment is also given to the candidates on the basis of the castes they belong to?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) As a general policy, passes are issued to candidates appearing for tests|interviews connected with recruitment to Class III technical categories for which material is difficult to find provided such recruitment is not conducted for and in a particular Railway District|Division|Region.

(b) In view of the difficulty experienced in recruiting candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, the general policy is relaxed in the case of such candidates, and they are issued passes for attending tests|interviews irrespective of the category to which recruitment is made or the distance involved.

Incidence of skin disease "Dermatitis"

*313. { **Shri Raghunath Singh:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the use of nylon, lipstick and plastic has resulted in the high incidence of contact "Dermatitis" a skin disease caused by contact with plastic rubber and nylon among other articles, and many persons have been admitted in Irwin Hospital, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the causes and remedy of the disease?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes, Sir. A number of persons suffering from contact dermatitis have been treated in the Irwin Hospital.

(b) This is due to allergy. The remedy consists in discontinuing the use of suspected offending agents and allied substances.

Purchase of Aeroplanes from U.S.S.R.

*314. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 954 on the 18th March, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have since considered the offer of purchase from the U.S.S.R. of aeroplanes and helicopters; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): (a) and (b). The offer is still under consideration.

Manufacture of Electric Locomotives

*315. { **Shri D. C. Sharma:**
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Pandit D. N. Tiwari:
Shri Subiman Ghose:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to

Starred Question No. 533 on the 2nd March, 1960 and state the progress made so far in making arrangements for the manufacture of electric locomotives at Chittaranjan?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): An order has been placed for all electric equipment. A large number of purchase items for the mechanical portion of the locos have been ordered. Jigs and Fixtures are under manufacture. Manufacturing Drawings are well in hand. Technical problems likely to arise in connection with manufacture are under study. Staff are being trained.

Foreign Exchange for Bridge Construction Material.

***316. Shri Pangarkar:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Government of Maharashtra have asked the Central Government to release foreign exchange for the import of bridge construction material during 1960-61; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned so far?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Irrigation Schemes of Kerala

498. **Shri Warior:**
Shri N. M. Deb:
Shri Vasudevan Nair:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) the schemes completed or where expected to be completed in the list of major and medium irrigation schemes included in the Second Five Year Plan in the State of Kerala by 31st March, 1959;

(b) the amount allocated and spent by the above date;

(c) the acreage originally estimated to be irrigated by the above date and actually irrigated; and

(d) what is the increase in foodgrains and commercial crops with respective value in terms of money?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The following major and medium Irrigation Schemes included in the Second Five Year Plan of Kerala, were completed by the 31st of March, 1959:—

(1) Chalakudy Stage I.

(2) Peechi.

(3) Kuttanad Development Scheme spillway at Thottapally.

(b) The amount allocated for the major and medium Irrigation Projects, during the 1st three years of the Second Plan was Rs. 509·41 lakhs, of which the amount actually spent upto the end of March, 1959, was Rs. 473·95 lakhs.

(c) The area proposed to be irrigated during the period was 57,510 acres and the area actually irrigated was 62,000 acres.

(d) The increase in the production of rice, was estimated at 28,800 tons valued approximately at Rs. 173 lakhs.

Departmental Catering on C. Railway

499. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of stations on the Central Railway having departmental catering; and

(b) the number of stations where catering is being carried on by private contractors?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 9.

(b) 349.

Ad-hoc Tribunal

500. Shri Pangarkar: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 950 on the 10th March, 1960 and state:

(a) whether Government have considered the recommendations of the one-man tribunal which went into the grievances of Railwaymen; and

(b) if so, the result thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The recommendations of the Tribunal are still under consideration along with the Pay Commission's Report.

Sugar Factory in Andhra Pradesh

501. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any application has been received by the Government of India from Andhra Pradesh for the establishment of a sugar factory in the State;

(b) if so, the action taken thereon; and

(c) the number of sugar factories existing in Andhra Pradesh at the end of 1959?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Five applications have been received of which two have been approved and the rest are under consideration in consultation with the State Government.

(c) Thirteen.

P. & T. Employees

502. **Shri Madhusudan Rao:** Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) how many employees of Posts and Telegraph Department are working in Hyderabad and Secundrabad at present; and

(b) the number of staff quarters constructed at these places so far for the staff?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) 1620 in Hyderabad and 638 in Secunderabad.

(b) No staff quarters have yet been constructed in Hyderabad. A scheme has already been sanctioned for constructing 200 quarters, the lay out plan for which has been finalised. In Secunderabad, 38 residential units have been constructed so far.

Portable Charcoal Kiln

503. **Shri P. K. Deo:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Research Institute type of portable charcoal kiln is popularly used in the country for the manufacture of Charcoal;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the cost of production of charcoal in this Kiln is higher than that in the conventional type; and

(d) what are the advantages of the portable type of Charcoal Kiln as developed by the Forest Research Institute?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) No.

(b) The initial investment cost of the kiln designed by the Forest Research Institute is too high for small investors.

(c) No.

(d) The advantages of the portable type of charcoal kiln as developed by the Forest Research Institute are:—

1. Quick carbonization and quick cooling.
2. Gives a clean charcoal, free from impurities.
3. Portability.
4. Can be used throughout the year.
5. No danger of fire hazards.

6. Burning of the kiln is practically automatic.
7. Yield of charcoal higher than with the indigenous kiln.

Proofing-*Cum*-Antiseptic Composition

504. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleas- to state:

(a) whether the Forest Research Institute has developed a fine proofing-*cum*-antiseptic composition for use in railway coaches and cinema halls etc.;

(b) if so, whether the said composition is manufactured on a commercial scale and whether all the requirements of the country are met now; and

(c) what is the name of the composition and what are its chemical properties?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) and (c). The fire proofing-*cum-antiseptic* composition has been developed by the Forest Research Institute. It consists of:—

Boric Acid—3 parts by weight.
Copper Sulphate—1 part by weight.
Zinc Chloride—5 parts by weight.
Sodium Dichromate—7 parts by weight.

Its composition can, however, be slightly varied to suit particular purposes. This is best suited for use in interior locations as it is likely to be leached out and its efficacy decreased when exposed to heavy rains. With certain variations it can also be used for protecting timber or cellulosic products used in railway coaches and in cinema halls.

(b) This is not manufactured on a commercial scale. The ingredients of the composition are available in the country and this can be compounded by any one requiring it by purchasing the components from the market. An article giving the requisite particulars about this composition was published in the *Indian Forester*, June, 1952, Volume 78, No. 6.

Red Outch Timber

505. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Acacia Chundra (Red outch) timber is used in shipbuilding in place of Teak as a result of research conducted by the Forest Research Institute, Dehradun;

(b) whether this timber is found to be of sufficient hardness and lubricating properties like teak;

(c) whether this timber is found in plenty; and

(d) what is its local vernacular name?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) This timber is used in shipbuilding in limited quantity for a particular use. It cannot be used in shipbuilding work in place of teak which can be used for all purposes of ship construction. Its main use in shipbuilding is for propeller shaft bearings of ships in place of imported "*Lignum Vitae*".

(b) This timber is very much harder and stronger than teak. Neither teak nor Acacia Chundra has much of lubricating properties although the latter, which is much harder than teak, finishes to extremely smooth surfaces; and precisely for this reason it is a substitute for 'Lignum Vitae" for shaft bearings in ships.

(c) This timber is found in sufficient quantities in Maharashtra and Gujarat States but is required for shipbuilding and ship repairing purposes only in very limited quantities, say, one ton for construction of 10 new ships and one ton for repairs of 15 to 20 ships.

(d) Lal Khair.

Chlorophyll

506. Shri P. K. Deo: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Forest Research Institute has discovered a new method of producing water-soluble and oil-soluble chlorophyll from indigenous plants;

(b) for what purpose chlorophyll is used and what is the total requirement of the country;

(c) whether there is any pilot project in the country to produce chlorophyll on an industrial scale; and

(d) if so, what is the total production capacity of this pilot project?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Yes.

(b) Oil-soluble chlorophylls are used to impart green shades to hair oils, soaps, ointments etc., while water-soluble chlorophylls are mainly used as deodorants as in tooth pastes, mouth lotions etc.

The total requirement of the country is about 650 lbs. per year.

(c) and (d). In 1956—58, the National Research Development Corporation of India had set up a pilot plant with a capacity of 1-2 lbs. per day at the Shri Ram Institute for Industrial Research, Delhi. The plant was dismantled after successful completion of the investigations. At present there is no pilot project in hand for production of chlorophyll on an industrial scale in the country.

Pontoon Bridge on Rupnarayan River

507. Shri N. M. Dev: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state whether there is any proposal to construct a pontoon bridge over Rupnarayan river on the National Highway No. 6 as a temporary arrangement for crossing the said river so long as the construction of the main bridge is not completed?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): There is no proposal to construct a pontoon bridge across the Rupnarayan river but till such time as the permanent road bridge is constructed a power ferry has been started for ferrying Government vehicles during high tide. Public vehicles will also be ferried after sometime when the timber piles of the jetty are replaced by reinforced concrete ones.

Advertisements at Railway Stations

508. Shri H. N. Mukerjee: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount of advertisement revenue accruing in 1958-59 and 1959-60 in the different railway zones, from advertisements on railway stations and other railway premises; and

(b) what steps, if any, are being taken for augmenting income from this head?

.The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a)

	Railway	1958–59	1959–60
1.	Western	3,24,501	3,34,031
2.	Central	2,99,065	3,31,855
3.	Southern	3,31,574	3,34,685
4.	Northern	2,96,677	6,01,400
5.	North Eastern	35,284	55,042
6.	Northeast-Frontier	39,242	40,381
7.	South Eastern	80,296	1,09,827
8.	Eastern	2,12,779	2,45,244
	TOTAL	16,19,418	20,52,465

(b) The following steps are being taken to develop income from commerical advertising on the railways:

(i) whole time commercial advertisement officers are being appointed to deal exclusively with the development of commercial advertising revenue on the Railways.

(ii) At Railway Board's level, greater watch is being exercised to ensure that the Railways maximise their efforts in all directions for the development of commercial advertising revenue. Some of the steps already taken include the standardisation of rates for all the Railways, the streamlining of the procedures in order to accord with standard trade practices elsewhere.

(iii) Effective liaison is being maintained with leading advertising agencies.

(iv) Apart from the traditional media of advertising namely posters, hoardings, neon signs, show cases etc., other new media are being explored for bringing in additional revenue to the Railways. The new media include railway carriages, reverse of passenger tickets, sides of wagons etc.

Merger of Class I & II Railway Accounts Clerks

509. **Shri H. N. Mukerjee:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether he has considered the desirability in the Eastern and other Railways, of the merger of Class I and II Railways Accounts Clerks and abolition of the Appendix IIA examination;

(b) whether such action was recommended by Mr. Justice Shankar Saran in his award sometime ago; and

(c) what is Government's decision in the matter?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, this has been considered in the past.

(b) and (c). There was no recommendation for merger of the two grades. Substitution of Appendix II-A Examination by a general type written test in respect of 25 per cent. of promotions from Class II to Class I clerical posts was recommended. This is under consideration.

Renovation of Stations

510. **Shri Agadi:**
Shri Siddananjappa:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any scheme for renovation and expansion of Raichur and Hospet Stations on the Southern Railways;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) when it is likely to be undertaken?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c). *Raichur*: It is proposed to extend the existing waiting hall and the work is likely to be taken up in 1961-62.

Hospet: The work of providing an additional waiting room and three suits of retiring rooms has been taken up and is nearing completion.

Co-operative Societies in Himachal Pradesh

511. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of persons in Himachal Pradesh who applied for forming new co-operative societies during 1959;

(b) the types of those societies; and

(c) the numer out of them which were registered?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) to (c). Necessary information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Lok Sabha shortly.

आयुर्वेदिक और एलौपैथिक संस्थायें

५१२. श्री नरदेव स्नातक : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) देश में केवल आयुर्वेद की शिक्षा देने वाली कितनी शिक्षा संस्थायें हैं;

(ख) क्या कुछ संस्थायें आयुर्वेदिक तथा ऐलोपैथिक दोनों की शिक्षा प्रदान करती हैं और उन की संख्या क्या है ;

(ग) क्या इन संस्थाओं को केन्द्रीय सरकार द्वारा कुछ सहायता दी जाती है; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो प्रत्येक को कितनी राशि दी जा रही है ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) केवल आयुर्वेद की शिक्षा देने वाली २७ शिक्षा संस्थायें हैं ।

(ख) जी, हां ऐसी ६६ संस्थायें हैं ।

(ग) और (घ). कुछ संस्थाओं को अनुसन्धान तथा उन्यन के लिये अनुदानों के रूप में केन्द्रीय सहायता दी गई है । १९५४–५५ से १९५९–६० तक विभिन्न संस्थाओं को दिये गये अनुदान का एक विवरण सभा पटल पर रखा जाता है । [देखिये परिशिष्ट १ अनुबन्ध संख्या ८१] ।

Housing Problem in Delhi

513. **A. M. Tariq:**
Shri Naval Prabhakar:
Shri Pahadia:
Dr. K. B. Menon:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received from Delhi Administration a scheme to tackle the twin problems of increase in land prices and housing shortage in Delhi;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the acreage of land which is proposed to be developed;

(d) the estimated number of houses to be constructed on this land;

(e) what will be the agency or agencies for the developmnet of land; and

(f) the financial implications of this scheme?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A comprehensive note on this subject has been received from the Delhi Administration and is receiving attention.

(b) to (f). The details have not been worked out so far.

Okhla Fishery

514. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that water becomes scarce and ceases to flow in Okhla fishery near Delhi during dry months;

(b) whether it is also a fact that this year the problem has become more acute; and

(c) if so, the nature of steps taken or proposed to be taken to solve the problem with a view to avoid mass-scale death of fish?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes.

(b) No.

(c) Death of fish on a mass scale occurs due to scarcity of water during dry months as well as to pollution which takes place by the discharge of sewage into the water.

In order to provide more water the Government of Uttar Pradesh have, at the request of the Delhi Administration, agreed to release 10 cusecs of water per day free of cost. The discharge of sewage has also been reduced considerably by the installation of power pumps at Kilokri. It will be completely stopped when the trunk sewer, which is already under construction, is completed.

Railway Sleepers from Jammu and Kashmir

515. Shri A. M. Tariq: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to pleased to state:

(a) whether any Railway sleepers have been purchased from Jammu and

Kashmir Government during 1959-60 and 1960-61 so far; and

(b) if so, the value thereof?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes; Sir.

(b) The value of the sleepers purchased is as under:—

During financial
year 1959-60 Rs. 1,96,24,700.
During (upto 30-6-60)
1960-61 Rs. 42,46,957.

Ajmeri Gate Slum Clearance

516. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri A. M. Tariq:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No 486 on the 26th February, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the new plan for the Ajmeri Gate Slum clearance has since been finalised; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) and (b). The detailed proposals regarding the Delhi-Ajmeri Gate Slum Clearance Scheme have been incorporated in the Draft Master Plan which has already been published on the 8th July, 1960 for eliciting public opinion.

Project Report on Western Jamuna Canal

517. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri D. C. Sharma:

Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1218 on the 1st April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the project report on the Western Jamuna Canal in Delhi has since been received in the Central Water and Power Commission for technical scrutiny; and

(b) if so, the action taken thereon?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) No.

(b) Does not arise.

Central Mechanised Farm, Suratgarh

518. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 862 on the 15th March, 1960 and state the steps taken to settle the dispute between the management and workers of the Central Mechanised Farm, Suratgarh?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): As a result of conciliation measures initiated by the Labour Commissioner, representations for reinstatement were received from 6 out of 8 discharged employees. The representations were considered by Government carefully and it was decided that it would not be in the public interest to reinstate them.

Gradation of Foodgrains

519. **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:
Shri Rameshwar Tantia:
Shri Pangarkar:
Shri Madhusudan Rao:

Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1495 on the 28th March, 1960 and state at what stage is the uniform scheme of gradation of foodgrains?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): Proposals for circulation to the State Governments and other Organisations concerned with the subject are under preparation with the Committee.

P. & T. Facilities in Punjab

520. Shri Ram Krishan Gupta: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the programme for extension of posts and telegraphs facilities in urban, rural and backward areas of Punjab during 1960-61 has been finalized; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): (a) and (b). It is proposed to open 14 post offices in the urban, 228 in the rural, and 23 in the 'very backward' areas and to employ additional Extra Departmental Delivery Agents to increase the frequency of deilvery in the villages.

As regards telegraph facilities, the Department has no special programme for extending these facilities in the urban, rural and backward areas as such. However, sanction to provide telegraph facilities at the following Tehsil Headquarters has been issued:

1. Chini
2. Sarahan
3. Bharmour
4. Tissa
5. Karsog
6. Karnah
7. Mendhar.

Welfare Officers in P. & T.

321. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri Nek Ram Negi:
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 2402 on the 21st April, 1960 and state at what stage is the question of retention or abolition of the posts of Welfare Officers in Posts and Telegraphs Department?

The Minister of Transport and Communications (Dr. P. Subbarayan): The question is still under examination.

Greater Calcutta Water Supply and Drainage Scheme

522. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Sardar Iqbal Singh:

Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Starred Question No. 1217 on 1st April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether financial implication for greater Calcutta's Water Supply and Drainage scheme has been worked out;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps taken or proposed to be taken to implement these schemes?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Not yet, Sir.

(b) and (c). The questions do not arise.

Looting of Train

523. { **Shri Ram Krishan Gupta:**
Shri P. C. Borooah:
Shri Rami Reddy:
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Delhi bound goods special train was looted on the 20th April by a gang of persons in a jungle region between Barkheda and Obaidullaganj stations on the Bombay-Delhi section of the Central Railways;

(b) if so, nature of the goods looted; and

(c) whether any person of the gang has been arrested?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes Sir. On the night of 20-4-60, a gang of miscreants broke open 9 wagons attached to a special goods train while it was running between Barkheda and Obaidullaganj stations on the Itarsi-Bhopal section of the Central Railway.

(b) Three tins of vanaspati ghee, 26 loose match boxes, 2 cases of crockery and 2 cases of tobacco worth about Rs. 400 were taken away by the miscreants. Of these one case of crockery and one case of tobacco worth about Rs. 100 were subsequently recovered.

(c) Nobody has so far been arrested. The case is under police investigation.

Procurement of Foodgrains by Co-operative Societies

524. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether in any State the Co-operatives have been given monopoly for procurement of foodgrains so far; and

(b) if so, in which State?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) and (b). Only in Assam the Co-operative Apex Marketing Society Ltd., has been given the monopoly right to purchase paddy in the districts of Nowgong, United Mikir and North Cachar Hills, Kamrup, Cachar and Darrang and North Lakhimpur sub-division.

Import of Electrical Equipment

525. Shri Chintamoni Panigrahi: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 1807 on the 6th April, 1960 and state:

(a) whether definite proposal for the release of foreign exchange for the import of equipment for extending the 132 Kv. line from Rayagada to Berhampur in Orissa has been received from the Orissa Government by now; and

(b) if so, whether the necessary foreign exchange has been released?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) Yes.

(b) The proposals are under scrutiny.

विश्व स्वास्थय संगठन सम्मलन में भारतीय प्रतिनिधिमंडल

५२६. श्री म० ल० द्विवेदी । क्या स्वास्थय मंत्री यह वताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि भारत सरकार ने एक प्रतिनिधि मंडल जेनेवा में विश्व स्वास्थय संगठन सम्मेलन में भाग लेने के लिये भेजा था ; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो भारत सरकार ने इस पर क्या व्यय किया;

स्वास्थय मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) जी, हां ।

(ख) ३१,५८४ रुपये ।

दिल्ली में नया क्षय रोग चिकित्सा केन्द्र

५२६. श्री म० ला० द्विवेदी :
श्री नवल प्रभाकर :

क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि संघ सरकार दिल्ली में झंडेवालान के निकट क्षय रोग का एक नया केन्द्र खोलने के लिये दिल्ली नगर निगम के प्रस्ताव पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो इस केन्द्र पर अनुमानतः कितना व्यय होगा ; और

(ग) इस केन्द्र में कितने रोगी भर्ती किये जा सकेंग ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री (श्री करमरकर) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) इस क्षय रोग क्लिनिक के निर्माण पर अनुमानतः १,३४,२०० रुपय का खर्च होगा ।

(ग) इस क्लिनिक से सम्बद्ध एक क्षय रोग पृथक्करण वार्ड के निर्माण का प्रस्ताव निगम ने अभी स्वीकृत नहीं किया है अतः इस केन्द्र में क्षय रोगियों के भर्ती करने का प्रश्न इस समय नहीं उठता ।

चीनी की मिलें स्थापित करने के लिए सहकारी समितियां

५२८. **श्री नवल प्रभाकर** : क्या सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री यह बतान की कृपा करेंगे कि ।

(क) १९५९–६० में देश में चीनी की मिलें स्थापित करन के लिये कितनी सहकारी समितियां बनाई गई ; और

(ख) प्रत्येक राज्य में कितनी समितियां बनाई गई ?

सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार उपमंत्री (श्री ब० सू० मूर्ति) : (क) १९५९–६० में छः सहकारी समितियां पंजीबद्ध की गई हैं ।

(ख)

आन्ध्र . .	२
केरल . .	२
मैसूर . .	१
पश्चिमी बंगाल .	१

हिमाचल प्रदेश में वन महोत्सव

५२९. **श्री पद्म देव** : क्या खाद्य तथा कृषि मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) हिमाचल प्रदेश में वर्ष १९५७, १९५८ और १९५९ में वन महोत्सव के शुभ अवसरों पर कितने वृक्ष लगाये गये;

(ख) लगाये गये पौधों में से कितने बचे; और

(ग) क्या इस प्रकार लगाये गये पौधों की देख भाल की कोई व्यवस्था की गई थी अथवा नहीं ?

कृषि मंत्री (डा० पं० शा० देशमुख) : (क) प्रत्यक वर्ष लगाये गये वृक्षों की संख्या निम्न है :—

१९५७	१९५८	१९५९
२,७१,६६१	१२,२२,२३७	६,२०,६००

(ख) बचे हुए वृक्षों की संख्या निम्न है :—

१९५७	१९५८	१९५९
१,६३,५७१	७,६१,१२९	४,१९,९९२

(ग) जी हां ।

Train Accident near Gorakhpur

530. **Shri Ajit Singh Sarhadi:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 16 Down Passenger was involved in an accident near Gorakhpur in the 2nd week of May, 1960;

(b) if so, the nature of the accident and details thereof; and

(c) the results of any enquiry held?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (c). On 9th May 1960 at about 16.40 hours, while 16 Down Passenger train was running between Rudain and Kaimganj stations on Agra Fort—Fatehgarh section of the North Eastern Railway, fire broke out in one of the Coaches of the train and some of the passengers occupying the coach jumped off the running train out of fear. As a result, six persons were injured of whom one grievously. The Government Inspector of Railways held a statutory enquiry into the accident and his final report is awaited.

Shortage of Foodgrains in Jammu and Kashmir

531. **Shri D. C. Sharma:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of Jammu and Kashmir have sought assistance from the Central Government to meet the shortage of foodgrains this year;

(b) if so, the quantity of foodgrains demanded and the time when it is required; and

(c) the quantity of foodgrains which the Central Government have agreed to supply to the Government of Jammu and Kashmir?

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): (a) Yes Sir.

(b) and (c). After discussion with the Jammu and Kashmiir Government it was agreed that 30,000 tons of rice, 25,000 tons of wheat and 5,000 tons of maize would be supplied to them during the Fasli Year 1959-60 i.e. from 16-10-59 to 15-10-60.

सिमरिया स्टेशन का अन्यत्र हटाया जाना

५३२. **श्री अनिरुद्ध सिंह :** क्या रेलवे मंत्री २५ अगस्त, १९५९ के तारांकित प्रश्न संख्या ८०७ के उत्तर के सम्बन्ध में यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सिमरिया स्टेशन को "राजेन्द्र पुल" के निकट ले जाने के प्रस्ताव पर इस बीच विचार कर लिया गया है; और

(ख) यदि हां, तो उस का क्या परिणाम निकला ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री सें० वें० रामस्वामी) : (क) जी हां ।

(ख) गंगा नदी के उत्तरी किनारे पर "राजन्द्र पुल" से उत्तर एक हाल्ट खोलने का फैसला किया गया है, जिस का संचालन ठेकेदार द्वारा होगा । पूर्व रेलवे के जनरल मैनेजर इस सम्बन्ध में आगे आवश्यक कार्यवाही कर रहे हैं ।

Construction of New Station Buildings on N. E. Railway

533. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of station buildings to be constructed during the year 1960-61 on the N.E. Railway in place of old ones; and

(b) if so, the names of such stations and cost to be incurred?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). The station building at Fatehgarh is being reconstructed at an estimated cost of about Rs. 72,000/- that at Raxaul is being remodelled at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,25,300/-. In addition to these, extensive alterations to the station building at Mathura Cantt. are being carried out to provide amenities for passengers, at an estimated cost of about Rs. 3,11,000.

Overbridge at Motihari

534. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is considering a scheme to construct an overbridge at Motihari (Bihar) Railway Station; and

(b) if so, when work will be started?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Arrangements are being made to take up the work of providing a foot over-bridge at this station during the current financial year.

Corruption Cases on N. E. Railway

535. **Shri Bibhuti Mishra:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of corruption cases pending on the North Eastern Railway as on the 31st July, 1960; and

(b) the nature of the cases pending?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) 127 cases are pending for finalisation of departmental action.

(b) Nature of cases.

(i) Irregular allotment of wagons.

(ii) Misuse of Passes and P.T.Os.

(iii) Misappropriation of railway stores and Government money.

(iv) Infringement of Railway Servants Conduct Rules.

(v) Irregularities in connection with recruitment and appointment of Staff.

(vi) Acceptance of work and material below specification.

(vii) Irregularities pertaining to booking of parcels and goods.

Compensation by Railway for Acquired Land

536. Shri S. C. Godsora: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether compensation has been paid fully to the people whose land have been acquired for the doubling of Rajkharaswan-Gua section of the S.E. Railway; and

(b) if not, what action is being taken for the early disposal of compensation cases?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Full compensation, as assessed by the Collector for the land so far acquired for the doubling of Rajkharaswan-Barajamda Section, was placed at the Collector's disposal and all disbursements have since been made by the Land Acquisition Authorities.

(b) Does not arise.

दिल्ली में तपेदिक के रोगी

५३७. श्री नवल प्रभाकर : क्या स्वास्थ्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि दिल्ली में उन तपेदिक के रोगियों को, जिन्हें अस्पतालों में स्थान नहीं मिलता, आर्थिक सहायता दी जाती है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो १९५९–६० में कितने व्यक्तियों को आर्थिक सहायता दी गई; और

(ग) कुल कितनी राशि दी गई ?

स्वास्थ्य मंत्री श्री (करमरकर) : (क) दिल्ली में गरीब क्षय रोगियों को, चाहे उन्हें अस्पताल में स्थान मिले या न मिले, प्रत्येक रोगी की स्थिति के अनुसार आर्थिक सहायता दी जाती है ।

(ख) और (ग). १९५९–६० में दिल्ली में २३३ गरीब क्षय रोगियों को स्वास्थ्य मंत्री कल्याण-निधि, स्वास्थ्य मंत्री के स्वविवेकानुदान और दिल्ली टी० बी० एसोसियेशन के पास उपलब्ध निधियों से तथा विभिन्न टी० बी० क्लिनिकों से सम्बद्ध अवधान एवं पश्चावधान समितियों से १५,८४५ रुपये की आर्थिक सहायता दी गई ।

दिल्ली में सहकारी समितियां

५३८. { श्री नवल प्रभाकर :
श्री अ० क० गोपालन :

क्या सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) इस समय दिल्ली के ग्रामीण क्षेत्रों में कितने प्रकार की सहकारी समितियां कार्य कर रही हैं; और

(ख) इन में से कितनी ऋण सहकारी समितियां हैं ?

सामुदायिक विकास तथा सहकार उपमंत्री (श्री ब० सू० मूर्ति) : (क) ६८९ ।

(ख) ३९२ ।

Water Supply at Railway Stations

539. Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) at which of the railway stations water supply is made to the (i) staff (ii) public, through Railway borne tanks and engines; and

(b) whether such arrangements at Morta Road, Northern Railway failed during May, 1960?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Presumably the Honourable Member refers to the water supply arrangements to the (i) staff and (ii) public on the Northern Railway, and if so, the position is indicated in the statement laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 82].

(b) No Sir, but on 1-6-1960 and 2-6-1960 the plant at Marwar Chhapri station, the source of water supply to Morta Road had failed, and supply was arranged from Gachhipura.

Rural Craft Museums at Block Level

540. **Shri S. A. Mehdi:**
Shri Subodh Hansda:
Shri R. C. Majhi:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to have rural craft museums in some selected Community Development Blocks; and

(b) how much amount has been sanctioned and their number?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Initially 25 Museums would be set up on pilot basis at a cost of Rs. 7,500 each, made up as follows:

(1) Purchase of Samples and show cases for display etc.	Rs. 4000
(2) Reproduction of Samples for obtaining orders etc.	Rs. 3500

These Museums would be housed in the Information Centres of the blocks.

The expenditure on the rural Craft Museums would be met by the State Governments from their Budget. However in cases, where it is not possible for the State Government to do so, the additional funds will be made available by the All India Handicrafts Board.

U.N. Special Fund for Hydro-Power Stations

541. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any survey has been carried out for the establishment of hydro-power stations under the development projects fund sanctioned by the United Nations' Special Fund recently;

(b) if so, the sites selected; and

(c) when the work is likely to start on them?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The reply is in the negative.

(b) and (c). Do not arise.

Automatic Traffic Control in New Delhi

542. Shri D. C. Sharma: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to set up more automatic traffic controls in New Delhi;

(b) if so, the names of the places where they are to be set up; and

(c) the total cost to be incurred on these?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes. It is proposed to instal additional automatic traffic control signals in New Delhi on a phased programme.

(b) Such signals are proposed to be installed at the following points during the current financial year:

(i) Junction of Chelmsford Road and Connaught Circus.

(ii) Junction of Curzon Road and Connaught Circus.

(iii) Crossing of Curzon Road and Hexagon (Near India Gate).

In addition, flashing lights will be provided at the following points during 1960-61:

(1) Crossing of Keeling Road—Curzon Road.

(2) Crossing of Keeling Road—Janpath.

(3) Crossing of Keeling Road—Barakhamba Road.

(4) Crossing of Hailey Road—Curzon Road.

(5) Junction of Hailey Road—Barakhamba Road.

(c) Rs. 25,000 approximately on the provision of automatic traffic control signals and flashing lights.

Community Development Conference

543. **Shri Hem Raj:**
Shri M. L. Dwivedi:
Shri P. K. Deo:
Shri P. G. Deb:
Shri P. C. Borooah:

Will the Minister of **Community Development and Cooperation** be pleased to state:

(a) the main subjects discussed at the Community Development Annual Conference held recently at Srinagar; and

(b) what are its main recommendations and which of them are being implemented?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Cooperation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) and (b). The information is contained in the "Main Recommendations and Conclusions" of Srinagar Conference —copies of which are available in the Parliament Library. These recommendations have been forwarded to the State Governments for implementation.

Manduadih Junction

544. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the progress in the schemes of increasing the transhipment capacity of Manduadih Junction on the North Eastern Railway;

(b) the time by which the expansion in the transhipment capacity will be completed; and

(c) how many additional wagons at this Junction Station are likely to be loaded after the completion of the work?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) The works for increasing the transhipment capacity at Manduadih Junction have been completed.

(b) Does not arise in view of reply to (a) above.

(c) The additional facilities at Manduadih were intended to increase the transhipment capacity from 200 to 225 B.G. wagons per day. With the opening of the Rajendra Pul at Barauni and the consequent diversion of some traffic by the normal route *via* Barauni, the traffic *via* Manduadih is not now materialising to the extent expected. Booking of traffic *via* Manduadih is at present free.

Central Rice Institute and Central Potato Research Institute

545. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the research works done by the Central Rice Research Institute and the Central Potato Research Institute separately during the last three years;

(b) the utility of the researches made by the Institute;

(c) whether research work is done in collaboration with foreign technicians; and

(d) if so, to what extent?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 83].

(c) No.

(d) Does not arise.

Prefixing 'Dr.' by Medical Practitioners

546. **Shri Kalika Singh:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any and every medical practitioner, irrespective of his qualifications, is entitled to prefix the title Doctor or its short form 'Dr.' to his name;

(b) whether Government is aware of the fact that throughout the country the practice of prefixing the title 'Dr.' by medical practitioners in general, including unqualified persons, has taken root and is harming the nation; and

(c) if so, steps being taken to stop the practice?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) to (c). There is no legal ban on the prefixing of the title 'Dr.' to their names by practitioners of any system of medicine in India. The question of regulation of the practice of medicine in all States was considered by the Central Council of Health with a view to preventing unqualified persons from engaging in the practice of any system of medicine. A draft (model) Bill was prepared for that purpose by the Union Ministry of Health and circulated to State Governments for adoption. Further action rests with the State Governments.

Over-bridge at Kozhikode

547. **Shri Warior:**
Shri A. K. Gopalan:
Shri Kunhan:

Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 488 on the 26th February, 1960 and state:

(a) the steps since taken regarding the proposal to construct a road over-bridge at Kozhikode Railway Station; and

(b) when the work is likely to begin?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Approval of the State Government as well as of the Calicut Municipality to the plans for the proposed road over-bridge have been received only in June, 1960. An estimate for the work to be done within the Railway land has been prepared and sent to the concerned road authorities for their acceptance.

(b) The work will be taken in hand as soon as acceptance to the estimate is received from the Road Authorities.

P.R.O's. Office, Churchgate, Bombay

548. **Shri T. B. Vittal Rao:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the names of various parties to whom various sites and show cases have been assigned in 1959 in Bombay by the Public Relation Officer's Office, Churchgate, Bombay;

(b) the period for which the contracts have been signed by these firms;

(c) the method of assigning various sites etc. to various parties; and

(d) whether tenders are called for before taking any decision?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) and (b). A statement is laid on the Table [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 84].

(c) All demands for sites for display of posters, enamel plates|painted boards are fully met, without any difficulty. Sites for hoardings, neon signs and show cases are let out in order of priority of demands received direct or through canvassers and advertising agencies—provided the letting out of these sites will not in any way hamper normal railway working.

(d) Tenders are not invited in respect of any site. Recently, however, tenders were invited for letting out space in Time Tables and on the reverse of passenger tickets.

Family Planning in Andhra Pradesh

549. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) the total amount allotted to the Andhra Pradesh Government for Family Planning Programme for 1959-60 and 1960-61; and

(b) whether the sum allotted during 1959-60 has been fully utilised by the Andhra Pradesh Government?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) A sum of Rs. 3,55,000 was allotted to the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Family Planning Programme for 1959-60. A sum of Rs. 6,25,000 has been tentatively allocated to the State Government for 1960-61.

(b) No, a sum of Rs. 2,11,000 was spent by the State Government during 1959-60.

Railway Out-agencies in Andhra Pradesh

550. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Railway out-agencies in Andhra Pradesh opened so far; and

(b) the number of such agencies to be opened during 1960-61?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri S. V. Ramaswamy): (a) Thirteen.

(b) Proposals to open out-agencies at 25 places in Andhra Pradesh are under examination; but it cannot be stated definitely at this stage whether out-agencies at these 25 places will be opened during 1960-61 or opened at all. Also, it is possible that out-agencies at other places may be opened during this year.

Railway Protection Force on S. Railway

551. Shri Madhusudan Rao: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) the strength of the Railway Protection Force of Southern Railway as on the 1st July, 1960, Division-wise;

(b) the number of officers and Rakshaks in each Division;

(c) the number of Scheduled Castes among them in each Division; and

(d) the total expenditure involved in maintaining the force during 1959-60 Division-wise?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (d). A statement is laid on the Table of the House. [*See* Appendix I, annexure No. 85.]

चीनी का उत्पादन

५५२. **श्री खुशवक्त राय :**
श्री विभूति मिश्र :
श्री हरिश्चन्द्र माथुर :
श्री पांगरकर :

क्या **खाद्य तथा कृषि** मंत्री एक ऐसा विवरण सभा पटल पर रखने की कृपा करेंगे जिस में निम्नलिखित जानकारी दी गई हो :

(क) भारत की प्रत्येक चीनी मिल में १९५९–६० के उत्पादन काल में चीनी का कितना उत्पादन हुआ;

(ख) गत दो वर्षों में इन मिलों में चीनी का कितना उत्पादन हुआ;

(ग) गत दो वर्षों के अनुपात में इस वर्ष चीनी की प्राप्ति क्या हुई; और

(घ) गत दो वर्षों की तुलना में इस वर्ष मिलों को कितना अधिक गन्ना प्राप्त हुआ?

खाद्य और कृषि उपमंत्री (श्री अ० म० थामस) : (क) और (ख). एक विवरण जिस में अपेक्षित जानकारी दी गई है पटल पर रखा जाता है । [देखिए परिशिष्ट १, अनुबन्ध संख्या ८६]

(ग) चीनी वर्ष नवम्बर से अक्तूबर है । १९५९–६० में अब तक गन्ने से औसत चीनी प्राप्ति ९.९३ प्रतिशत हुई है जब कि १९५७–५८ और १९५८–५९ के पूरे मौसमों में क्रमश: १०.१ और ९.८४ प्रतिशत प्राप्ति हुई थी ।

(घ) मिलों द्वारा १९५९–६० के मौसम में १९५७–५८ और १९५८–५९ के मौसमों की अपेक्षा अब तक क्रमश: ४४ और ४७ लाख टन गन्ना अधिक पेरा जा चुका है ।

Willingdon Hospital

553. Shri Muhammed Elias: Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to a report about Willingdon Hospital appearing in the *Statesman* on 30th May, 1960 under the headline "Hospital Red Tape";

(b) if so, whether Government is considering any proposal to simplify the procedure; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) Yes.

(b) and (c). The question of simplifying the procedure wherever possible will be examined.

Train Accident near Motihari Station

554. Shri Subiman Ghose: Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether the 98 Down Narkatia Paleza train (Patna Passenger) met with an accident at the level crossing near Motihari station on 24th June, 1960 or near about that time;

(b) if so, the cause of the accident, the number of the dead and injured and the extent of loss suffered by Railway or other persons;

(c) whether compensation has been paid to the families of the dead and the injured;

(d) whether any accident bulletin was issued and enquiry held; and

(e) whether any action has been taken against the staff responsible for the accident?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) On 24th June, 1960 at about 01.50 hours, No. 98 Down Narkatiaganj-Palezaghat Passenger train ran into a Motor truck at a level crossing gate between Motihari and Jiudhara stations of North Eastern Railway.

(b) The cause of the accident is under investigation by the Government Inspector of Railways. As a result, the Motor truck Driver and the Cleaner were killed, the other two occupants of the Motor truck as also the train driver and Fireman were injured. Approximate cost of damage to the Railway property has been assessed at Rupees three thousand.

(c) No.

(d) The Government Inspector of Railways held statutory enquiry into the accident.

(e) This will be considered by the railway administration on receipt of the report of the Government Inspector of Railways.

Accident on Calcutta Port Commission's Railway

555. Shri Subiman Ghose: Will the Minister of **Transport and Communications** be pleased to state:

(a) whether there was any accident of a goods train at the Hyde Road Main BB Hall level crossing of Calcutta Port Commission's Railway on 24th June, 1960 or near about that time;

(b) if so, the cause of the accident and the number of dead and injured and the extent of loss sustained by the Railway and the Port Commission;

(c) whether compensation has been paid to the families of the dead and injured;

(d) whether any enquiry has been held and accident bulletin issued;

(e) if so by whom;

(f) whether any action has been taken against those found responsible for the accident; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

The Minister of State in the Ministry of Transport and Communications (Shri Raj Bahadur): (a) Yes.

(b) At about 10-30 a.m. on the 24th June 1960, one of the Calcutta Port Commissioners' Engines was backing a rake of about 34 wagons over the Hide Road level crossing. A lorry No. WBQ. 1897, loaded with bags of rice belonging to the Food Department of the Government of West Bengal was proceeding from east to west over that level crossing. Although the Shunter Gunner attached to the rake of wagons had exhibited the danger signal, the driver of the lorry disregarded the singal and collided with the first wagon of the backing rake. As a result of the accident the lorry was smashed and five empty wagons got derailed and damaged. Shri Nand Kishore Koiry, the Lorry Driver was killed and two attendants on the lorry namely Bhagaboti Koiry and Bansdeo were seriously injured. The injured persons were removed to Hospital for treatment. Two of the derailed wagons mounted the southern end boundary wall of Messrs Stewarts & Lloyds siding at Hide Road and damaged the wall. The Commissioners sustained a total cost of Rs. 12,092.84nP. for repairing the permanent way and repairing the five empty wagons, belonging to the Indian Railways, which were damaged in the accident.

(c) The dead and the injured were employees of one Shri Ram Dular Jadav of S. N. Roy Road, Behala, the owner of the lorry, which was engaged by Messrs Bhowmick Brothers, contractors to the Food Department, Government of West Bengal. The amounts of compensation paid to them by their employer, if any, are not known.

(d) and (e). An enquiry has been held into the accident by the officers of the Commissioners. The Board of enquiry came to the conclusion that there was no breach of rules by the Commissioners' staff, that normal precautions were taken when the train was moving over the level crossing and that the accident occurred due to the lorry driver having attempted to cross the level crossing disregarding the signal and the approaching train.

(f) and (g). None of the Commissioners' staff has been found responsible for the accident; hence no action has been taken against the staff.

Accident at Howrah Station

556. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any accident took place on the 23rd June 1960 or near about that time at Howrah station near platform No. 14;

(b) if so, the cause of the accident;

(c) the extent of loss suffered by the Railways and the number of the injured;

(d) whether any enquiry was held and any accident bulletin issued; and

(e) whether any action has been taken against the staff responsible for the accident?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (e). On 23rd June, 1960 at about 04·28 hours, No. 318 Down Passenger train while entering Howrah Station Side collied with a portion of 410 Down rake. As a result, one person sustained minor injuries. Approximate cost of damage to the Railway property has been assessed at Rupees Five thousand and five hundred. A Joint Enquiry was held to investigate the accident and according to their report, the accident occurred due to the failure of the Railway staff. The staff held responsible for the accident will be dealt with suitably.

No accident bulletin has yet been issued regarding this accident.

Development of Fisheries in Punjab

557. **Shri Daljit Singh:** Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) the amount allotted to the Punjab during the Second Five Year Plan period so far towards the development of fisheries; and

(b) the schemes on which it has been spent?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) There is a provision of Rs. 11.25 lakhs for development of fisheries in the Punjab during the Second Plan period.

(b) The main fisheries schemes of the State are:

(i) Fisheries development in Patiala Range.

(ii) Expansion of the fisheries development programme by stocking a large number of impounded waters with fish.

(iii) Provision of Cold Storage Plants.

(iv) Scheme for pisciculture in Bhakra Dam Lake.

(v) Stocking of Chandigarh Lake with fish.

(vi) Setting up of a separate Fisheries Section under the Animal Husbandry Department.

Railway Accident near Ahmedabad

558. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether any accident took place at Mehmadabad Station (near Ahmedabad) Western Railway on the 7th July, 1960 or near about that time;

(b) if so, the cause of the accident and the number of casualties;

(c) whether any enquiry has been held in the matter;

(d) the extent of loss suffered by Railways and the public; and

(e) whether any compensation has been paid to the injured persons?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) to (e). On 7th July, 1960 at about 05.00 hrs. No. 7 Down Bombay-Ahmedabad Janta Express collided with the rear of 665 Down Goods Train which was standing on the Loop line at Mehmedabad Station.

The cause is under enquiry.

As a result of the accident, one person received grievous injuries and 20 others minor injuries. Loss to the Railway property was estimated at Rupees thirteen thousand.

No compensation claims have so far been received by the railway administration.

Derailment near Minambakkam

559. **Shri Subiman Ghose:** Will the Minister of **Railways** be pleased to state:

(a) whether a goods train derailed near Minambakkam Station while proceeding towards Madras Beach on the 7th July, 1960 or near about that time;

(b) if so, the cause of accident;

(c) the number of injured and the loss suffered by Railways; and

(d) how long the normal running of trains including the Electric trains was stopped?

The Deputy Minister of Railways (Shri Shahnawaz Khan): (a) Yes.

(b) The cause of the accident is under investigation.

(c) Only one person received minor injuries. Approximate cost of damage to the Railway property has been estimated at rupees seven thousand and six hundred.

(d) The main line through train service was not affected due to the accident. On the Electrified suburban section the position of train service was almost normal except dislocation of traffic between Guindy and Tambaram which lasted for about 18 hours.

Khaperkheda Thermal Station (Maharashtra)

560. **Shri Achar:** Will the Minister of **Irrigation and Power** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 954 on the 10th March, 1960 and state:

(a) whether the Government of India have sanctioned the Khaperkheda Thermal Station Extension Scheme in the Vidarbha region of Maharashtra State; and

(b) if so, the amount of capital that would be required for this extension and the additional capacity of the station?

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): (a) The reply is in the affirmative.

(b) The estimated cost of the generation portion of the scheme is Rs. 290.00 lakhs. The generating capacity to be added would be 30 MW.

गाड़ी में लाश

५६१. **श्री खुशवक्त राय:** क्या रेलवे मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि श्री बाला सिह नामक एक युवक की लाश गत १८ जुलाई को गढ़मुक्तेश्वर (उत्तर रेलवे) स्टेशन पर एक गाड़ी में पाई गई ;

(ख) उस की मृत्यु का क्या कारण था; और

(ग) क्या इस सम्बन्ध में कोई जांच की जा रही है ?

रेलवे उपमंत्री (श्री शाहनवाज खां): (क) और (ख). जी हां मौत दैवयोग से हुई । स्वर्गीय बाला सिह एक मोटर ट्रक के क्लीनर थे जो शटल गाड़ी में लदा हुआ था । वे अपने ट्रक की छत पर सोये हुए थे । ऐसा जान पड़ता है कि जब शटल गाड़ी गंगा पुल से गुजरी, तो उन का शरीर पुल के ऊपरी ढांचे से टकरा गया जिस की वजह से उन की मौत हो गई ।

(ग) जी हां । रेलवे पुलिस मामले की जांच कर रही है ।

Co-operative Farming Societies in Delhi

562. **Shri Ramam:** Will the Minister of **Community Development and Co-operation** be pleased to refer to the reply given to Unstarred Question No. 53 on the 10th February, 1960 and state:

(a) the name of the Co-operative Farming Society in Delhi to whom loan of Rs. 20,000 was granted about 4 years back;

(b) the conditions on which the loan was given; and

(c) whether the amount has been repaid?

The Deputy Minister of Community Development and Co-operation (Shri B. S. Murthy): (a) The Mukhmelpur Co-operative Joint Farming Society Ltd.

(b) The loan was granted on 31-3-1955 for reclamation of land. The loan is repayable in a period of six years in seven half-yearly instalments commencing from 1-4-1958 with interest at 4½ per cent. per annum.

(c) The society has repaid only a sum of Rs. 3,200 so far.

C.H.S. Dispensary, Patel Nagar

563. **Shri S. M. Banerjee:** Will the Minister of **Health** be pleased to state:

(a) whether his attention has been drawn to exceptionally heavy rush throughout the week in the Patel Nagar C.H.S. Dispensary as compared to other C.H.S. dispensaries in Delhi;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the dispensary is housed in a small building and two or more than two doctors are made to sit together in a single room to attend to patients;

(c) whether the Chief Welfare Officer of the Ministry of Home Affairs also visited the dispensary some time back to see the things himself; and

(d) what are his findings and the action taken by Government to relieve congestion?

The Minister of Health (Shri Karmarkar): (a) It is a fact that C.H.S. Dispensary, Patel Nagar, carried a comparatively heavy load.

(b) It is a fact that the dispensary in question has been accommodated in a residential house in which accommodation is inadequate compared to requirements.

(c) and (d). The Ministry of Health has no information about the visit of Chief Welfare Officer to this Dispensary. Sustained efforts have been made during the last 3 years to find alternative accommodation for the dispensary but no premises at a rental acceptable to the Ministry of Works, Housing and Supply have yet become available. With the starting of a C.H.S. Dispensary in Moti Nagar with effect from 1-8-1960, a reduction in rush on Patel Nagar Dispensary is anticipated. As soon as suitable accommodation becomes available, separate C.H.S. Dispensaries are proposed to be started in West Patel Nagar and Rajinder Nagar. This is bound to provide very substantial relief to the present Patel Nagar Dispensary.

Land Levelling Operations

564. Shri Ram Garib: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that financial assistance is given to State Governments for levelling operations of lands for agricultural purposes; and

(b) if so, what assistance was given to Punjab State during the years 1958-59 and 1959-60 for this purpose?

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Under the revised procedure, since 1958-59, issue of scheme-wise sanctions has been dispensed with. Sanctions are conveyed to the States according to the Major Heads of Development *viz.* agricultural production. The amount so sanctioned to Government of Punjab for agricultural production during the years 1958-59 and 1959-60 is Rs. 164.35 lakhs and Rs. 109.83 lakhs respectively, but the information regarding financial assistance given for the scheme for levelling operations of lands for agricultural purposes is not available.

I.C.A.R.

565. Shri Ram Garib: Will the Minister of **Food and Agriculture** be pleased to state:

(a) what is the procedure for recruitment of staff on the administration side in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research and the Extension Wing of the Ministry; and

(b) whether posts are circulated to various Ministries and Offices?

The Minister of Agriculture (Dr. P. S. Deshmukh): (a) Recruitment to various posts in these offices is governed by the instructions issued, and the procedure laid down, by the Ministry of Home Affairs, and also by the U.P.S.C. (Exemption from Consultation) Regulations, 1958. In so far as tenure posts and posts requiring knowledge and experience of accounts work are concerned, recruitment is made through State Governments and|or Accounts Offices, respectively.

(b) Normally, posts are not circulated to various Ministries and Offices. If, however, recruitment to a particular post is to be made from staff working in specified cadres, names of suitable candidates are invited by issuing a circular for this purpose.

12 hrs.

RE: MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT

Shri S. M. Banerjee (Kanpur) *rose*—

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): Sir, may I seek a clarification? You have been pleased to write to me that the adjournment motion about the detention of Shri Prabhu Narain Singh, MP, relates to a matter of law and order which is a State subject. My submission is that under the Constitution of India, preventive detention is not at all a State subject. It is item 9 in the Union List and item 3 in the Concurrent List, which states:

> "Preventive detention for reasons connected with the security of a State, the maintenance of public order, or the maintenance of supplies and services essential to the community; persons subjected to such detention."

Mr. Speaker: What is the number of that entry?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: It is item 9 of the Union List and item 3 of the Concurrent list. I have thoroughly studied the State List but do not find any entry in the State List which relates to preventive detention.

Then, this Parliament was pleased to enact this law and sub-section (4) of section 3 of that law says:

> "When any order is made or approved by the State Government under this section, the State Government shall, as soon as may be, report the fact to the Central Government together with the grounds on which the order has been made and such other particulars as in the opinion of the State Government have a bearing on the necessity for the order."

Then, clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 13 says:

> "notwithstanding that the order has been made by a State Government, by the Central Government."

Sub-section (1) of section 13 of the Preventive Detention Act says:

> "Without prejudice to the provisions of section 21 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, a detention order may at any time be revoked or modified—".

My submission is that this is not a matter of law and order. The Central Government is directly concerned with any preventive detention made in any part of India, whether it is a Centrally administered territory or it is a State of the Indian Union. So, the matter can very well be raised in this House.

I am not entering into the merits of the case. But if you so please I can also state that Shri Prabhu Narain Singh was here up to the 30th April. He reached Banaras at 1 P.M. on the 1st May. He was arrested on the evening of that day. For three months, during the whole of last session he was here in Delhi attending Parliament. On the 1st May he was arrested there. My submission is that a certain Minister, the Home Minister of Uttar Pradesh, comes from the same constituency from which Shri Prabhu Narain Singh has been elected to Parliament. He represents the same constituency in the State Assembly which Shri Prabhu Narain Singh does here and is the Home Minister of Uttar Pradesh. The State Government has been pleased to extend the period of detention of Shri Prabhu Narain Singh to one year. There is *mala fides* in the detention. So the responsibility of the Central Government comes in. I have shown the provisions under which the Central Government can intervene. Since the case is of an unusual nature, I would submit that the Central Government must intervene, look into the merits of the case and decide accordingly.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: I have a submision . . .

Mr. Speaker: I will not allow. The hon. Member thinks that he must

[Mr. Speaker]

take charge of every adjournment motion.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: There is no question . . .

Mr. Speaker: No, I am sorry.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The rules are there after all . . .

Mr. Speaker: The rules are that I should not go on hearing every hon. Member . . . .(*Interruption*). I am satisfied.

I want to ask a question of the hon. ember here. He said that it is in e Concurrent List. Does he mean to say that with regard to every item mentioned in the Concurrent List the Centre alone must deal with? Unless there is legislation passed here superseding that legislation, how else can the Centre do it?

It is in the Concurrent List, that is, preventive detention for reasons connected with the security of a State. If any State exercises the powers under the Concurrent List, it is the State's business. How can the executive at the Centre interfere with the discretion of the executive in the State? This Act provides various methods of making representations to the tribunal and so on. Why should not that hon. Member do so or why should not some other person on his behalf do so? How can we take charge of that?

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Could I submit that I referred to section 13 of the Act which we have passed? Clause (1) of this section says:

> "Without prejudice to the provisions of section 21 of the General Clauses Act, 1897, a detention order may at any time be revoked or modified—
>
> (b) notwithstanding that the order has been made by a State Government, by the Central Government."

The Parliament with due purpose put this provision here. If certain State Government was of the view that certain person should be detained, the Central Government could intervene. I do not mean to say that under the Concurrent List the State Assembly was not competent to enact a law. But as a matter of fact in no part of India any State Assembly has enacted any law about preventive detention. It is this Parliament and this House alone which has enacted this law. Under this law we have provided for certain measures. This measure says that the Central Government could intervene at any stage notwithstanding that the order was passed by a State Government.

I have submitted that in this particular case the Home Minister of Uttar Pradesh comes from the same constituency from which Shri Prabhu Narain Singh has been elected to this House. I have also submitted that for three months he was here in Parliament. He reached there at 1 p.m. on the 1st May and in the evening he was arrested and detained for one year. The strange thing is that this law shall only be in force up to December, 1960 but the State Government is detaining him for one year.... (*Interruption*).

Mr. Speaker: How could I go on hearing all hon. Members? I am trying to make up my mind as to whether it is a case for adjournment. Apart from other matters, is it a case for adjournment?

An Hon. Member: Yes, Sir.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. I am not going to hear all that. A case for adjournment is there only if it is the Centre's responsibility to intervene in this matter. No doubt under this law the Centre can do so, but there is no obligation, namely, that the Centre ought to do so. The Criminal Procedure Code is also passed by the Centre, but whenever the powers under the Criminal Procedure Code, section 144 and other things, are exercised by the State

Government we do not come here and charge this Government for having been indifferent. . .(*Interruption*).

There are certain Acts which are passed by the Centre, but the power is vested entirely in the executive of a particular State and they have got absolute discretion. Then there is a tribunal. They may go to the tribunal and get the order vacated if it is unreasonable. It is not the duty of the Centre to intervene. Therefore there is no question of an adjournment motion here. If the hon. Member wants that the Centre should take action, he may move a resolution here and if it is accepted by the House let the Centre do so . . . (*Interruption*).

Therefore no adjournment motion lies in it. An adjournment motion can be taken up only when the Centre has not discharged its duty that is cast upon it. There is no duty cast upon the Centre here to intervene in all these matters. It is a matter for the State Government. Of course, if the hon. Member wants the Centre to exercise their discretion, he may move a resolution but not an adjournment motion. That is all that I want to say.

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta—Central): There is no intention to question the jurisdiction of the State Government so far as the application of the Preventive Detention Act is concerned, but the Centre has certain concurrent rights in this matter and the State Government always reports to the Centre cases of arrest under the Preventive Detention Act. What rather intrigues me, after I have heard my hon. friend, Shri Braj Raj Singh, is this, that here was an hon. Member of Parliament who, according to Shri Braj Raj Singh, was here in Parliament attending the Budget Session for nearly three months and on going home on the 1st May was arrested almost immediately. I do not want to go into the merits of the matter but the circumstances involving an hon. Member of Parliament going back to his constituency after nearly three months of work in Delhi being suddenly whisked away and then being kept in jail continuously for more than a year—that is the intention of the order issued by the U.P. Government—all that sounds rather fishy. All this sounds rather fishy—I am very sorry to have to use that word. But I do feel that it being rather dubious, perhaps the Central Government might give us some material in regard to it, because they must have got an intimation from the State Government regarding the preventive detention, for perhaps a period of one year from today, of Shri Prabhu Narain Singh. That is why I feel there is perhaps some conceivable reason for the Centre to take note of this matter. And being in Parliament, we have no other mechanism, as far as I can understand it; the other instruments are not possible of being used as far as this kind of thing is concerned, and that is why this adjournment motion was brought.

Mr. Speaker: I will ask the hon. the Home Minister to gather information regarding this matter, because the Centre also can, if it likes, if there is some grave injustice, advise the State Government. It has got a concurrent jurisdiction. I would request the hon. the Home Minister to gather the facts and place them before the House as early as possible.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: It may be held over till tomorrow because the Home Minister is not here.

Mr. Speaker: There is no question of holding it over. I am satisfied that there is no case for adjournment. So far as this matter is concerned, let it not be kept pending. But I am sure whether this hangs over till tomorrow or not, all the same, when I request the Home Minister to make a statement, he is not going to say that the adjournment motion has been

[Mr. Speaker]

dismissed and therefore he is not going to make a statement. He will certainly gather the facts and make a statement as early as possible.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: May I make a submission? Under the provisions of law the matter has got to be reported to the Centre. Unless the Home Minister is there we will not be able to know what are the grounds on which the State Government has been pleased to detain Shri Prabhu Narain Singh. So let it be held over till tomorrow.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): Sir, this matter has come up without any previous knowledge to me at any rate. I do not know if the Home Minister has any knowledge of this, but I have no information at all on the subject. Normally, as you were pleased to say, such matters do not come up in this House. But if it is a question of information being given, I am quite sure the Home Minister will try to find out what the facts are and place them before the House. I can convey your wishes to the Home Minister.

Mr. Speaker: Very well.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): The Deputy Home Minister is here.

Mr. Speaker: Has she already got any information regarding this?

The Deputy Minister of Home Affairs (Shrimati Alva): On the general allegations contained in the adjournment motion we have no information. But the other statement that the hon. Member made, that his detention has been extended by one year, is incorrect, because the Act itself expires on the 31st December of this year.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: That is my complaint.

Mr. Speaker: If it expires, it expires. I would request the hon. the Deputy Home Minister to write to the State authorities and then as early as possible, in less than two days, to make a full report as to what exactly has happened in this matter. If actually the Act expires, how does it happen that it has been extended for one full year so far as the hon. Member is concerned?

Shrimati Alva: I am only correcting the statement made by him.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: I would submit that perhaps—I do not know—it may take more than two days, because one has to get information from another State. It is not available here. If it is available in a day or two, certainly we will place it. It may take three days.

Mr. Speaker: Very well, by next Monday.

Shri S. M. Banerjee: The detention will be there.

Mr. Speaker: The detention is not going to be reduced by three days or four days; it may not go on for a year.

12.15 hrs.

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE

ANNUAL REPFRT OF ALL INDIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

The Deputy Minister of Irrigation and Power (Shri Hathi): On behalf of Shri Karmarkar I beg to lay on the Table a copy of the Annual Report of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for the year 1959-60, under Section 19 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2260/60.]

NOTIFICATIONS ISSUED UNDER ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES ACT

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri A. M. Thomas): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of each of the following Notifications under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955:—

(i) G.S.R. 501 dated the 30th April, 1960.

(ii) G.S.R. 805 dated the 14th July, 1960 making certain amendment to the Sugar (Movement Control) Order, 1959. [*Placed in Libary. See No.* LT-2261/60].

AMENDMENT TO INDIA AIRCRAFT RULES

The Deputy Minister of Civil Aviation (Shri Mohiuddin): I beg to lay on the Table a copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 559 dated the 21st May, 1960 making certain further amendment to the Indian Aircraft Rules, 1937, under sub-section (3) of Section 5 of the Indian Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an Explanatory Note thereon. [*Placed in Library. See* No. LT-2262/60].

12.16½ hrs.

STATEMENT RE: DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS, 1957-58

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): On behalf of Shri Morarji Desai I beg to present a statement showing Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1957-58.

12.16¾ hrs.

COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

SIXTY-SIXTH REPORT

Shri Jhulan Sinha (Siwan): I beg to present the Sixty-sixth Report of the Committee on Private Members' Bills and Resolutions.

12.17 hrs.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

DELHI MILK SCHEME

Shri Vajpayee (Balrampur): Under Rule 197, I beg to call the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the following matter of urgent public importance and I request that he may make a statement thereon:—

> "The allegations of adulteration of milk supplied under Delhi Milk Scheme".

The Deputy Minister of Food and Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa): As the House is aware, the Delhi Milk Scheme started functioning on 1st November 1959. It made a humble beginning with the sale of 150 maunds of milk per day through 32 depots and 16 institutions. The work has gradually increased and at present out of a total demand of 7,000 maunds per day for the entire City, the Central Dairy handles 1500 maunds of milk. The number of depots has also increased to 280. Thus, at the moment, the Scheme is meeting more than 20% demand of the City.

From the very beginning a well-equipped Quality Control Laboratory has formed an integral part of the Scheme so that the quality of milk as it passes through several stages of handling and processing can be ensured after proper tests. No adverse report had been received regarding the purity of the milk. We were, therefore, somewhat surprised when the proceedings of the Delhi Municipal Corporation dated 12-7-60 containing allegations of adulteration of milk supplied under the Delhi Milk Scheme reached us on 15-7-60. We immediately ordered a thorough investigation in the matter.

The facts as reported to us are as follows:—

Between February and June 1960, the Delhi Municipal Corporation authorities took 8 samples of milk

[Shri M. V. Krishnappa]

sold under the Scheme. 5 of the samples were of toned milk and 3 of whole buffalo milk. 7 of these samples were taken from the hospitals to which milk was supplied in cans and one sample was taken under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act by a Food Inspector of the Corporation from one of the milk depots in the City. The result of the tests by the Public Analyst disclosed that only one sample of toned milk was below standard with regard to its fat content—it was 2.4% whereas it should have been 3%. All the other samples had a higher fat content than the minimum prescribed under the Act. The position in regard to solids-not-fat content, however, was that 4 samples, 3 of buffalo milk and one of toned milk were found to be below standard as they contained from 0 31% to 0·35% less in case of buffalo milk and 0·09% less in case of toned milk.

The deficiency in these cases has been attributed by the experts to the fact that milk is kept in cold store for 12—18 hours during which period cream rises to the top of the can or gets concentrated on the sides. It is necessary to mix it well to achieve uniform homogeneity before the sample can be called a representative one.

As I say, no adverse report had been received from the Quality Control Laboratory of the Central Dairy. Nevertheless, in order to satisfy ourselves further, we had a meeting with the Minister of Health and his Technical Advisers on 22nd July 1960. They were fully satisfied that the milk supplied under the Scheme was of good and pure quality and that there was no evidence of adulteration. The Ministry of Health also issued a Press statement to this effect on 23rd July, 1960.

It would appear that the alleations of adulteration are baseless. We regret to say that a good deal of criticism is based on the propaganda done by interested parties. The Delhi Milk Scheme is doing good work in spite of the odds that it has inevitably to face in its nascent stage.

I can assure the House that we are most anxious to maintain the highest possible standards in order to ensure supply of pure milk. We are evolving in consultation with the Ministry of Health a uniform procedure for taking milk samples for testing. We are also taking steps to improve the administrative set-up of the Scheme so that any complaints as to quality are looked into carefully and quickly with a view to taking suitable remedial measures.

Shri Vajpayee: May I know if the health authorities of the Delhi Municipal Corporation who made these allegations are satisfied with the explanation given by the Minister and whether they have dropped the idea of prosecuting the persons who are manning the Delhi Milk Scheme?

Shri M. V. Krishnappa: Our officers blame the Delhi corporation officers, because, they are allowing 90 per cent of the milk in Delhi which is adulterated up to 60 per cent. All the cream is taken and only the milk is sold as pure milk in Delhi. Our dairy cannot compete with such milk which is 60 per cent adulterated. Our officers asked the Delhi corporation officers to enforce strict measures in the case of other people. Delhi Administration says, your milk is adulterated 1 per cent. Where is 60 per cent, and where is 1 per cent adulteration? During the summer months, sometimes, the adulteration is even higher. If the Delhi authorities look to preventing the other milk that is adulterated up to 60 per cent that is brought into the Delhi city, we will be very grateful to them.

12.22 hrs.

INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (STATUS, IMMUNITIES AND PRIVILEGES) BILL*

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): On behalf of Shri Morarji Desai, I beg to move for leave to introduce a Bill to implement the international agreement for the establishment and operation of the International Development Association in so far as it relates to the status, immunities and privileges of that Association, and for matters connected therewith.

Mr. Speaker: The question is:

> "That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to implement the international agreement for the establishment and operation of the International Development Association in so far as it relates to the status, immunities and privileges of that Association, and for matters connected therewith."

The motion was adopted.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddy: I introduce† the Bill.

12.23 hrs.

TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi): Sir, I move:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957, the Expenditure-tax Act, 1957 and the Gift-tax Act, 1958, be taken into consideration."

One of the objects of the Bill is to give effect to the Government's decision to relax the secrecy provisions of the direct taxes Acts for the purpose of publishing the names and other particulars of certain types of tax offenders and for the purpose of disclosure of information regarding the amount of taxes payable by assessees. The relaxation of these secrecy provisions is expected to help Government in its attempts to grapple with the problem of tax evasion. I am aware of the criticism that a person's tax details are matters of intimate personal concern to him and that he should be entitled to have them kept as a secret known only to him and the Government. While I appreciate the force of this criticism up to a point, I do not see why the importance of the secrecy provisions should be considered so paramount that they should not be relaxed even to a limited extent if the public interest justifies such a relaxation. It cannot be denied that the publication of the names of those who have been penalised or offences against the tax laws of the country will serve as a deterrent against the commission of such offences by others. Further, there is no reason why persons who commit offences against the tax laws of the country should in this connection be regarded as a privileged class as compared to those who commit offences against the other laws of the country. Government had, therefore, been contemplating for some considerable time the bringing in of legislation of the type now before the House. However, as the Direct Taxes Administration Enquiry Committee was also considering the same question, it had been decided to await the views of that Committee before taking a final decision in the matter. As hon. Members are aware, the Committee has expressed views in support of the relaxation of the secrecy provisions. The relevant proposals of the Bill have been framed after taking into consideration the recommendations of the Committee in this regard.

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†I troduced with the recommendation of the President.

[Shri B. Gopala Reddi]

A word about the provisions in the Bill regarding the disclosure of taxes paid by assessees. The information to be disclosed is only the amount of tax as determined and not the details leading up to the computation of the income, etc. The secrecy relating to the business affairs of an assessee will, therefore, be preserved.

The amendments necessary in the Income-tax Act, Wealth tax Act, Expenditure-tax Act and Gift-tax Act have been incorporated in clauses 9, 11, 12, and 13 of the Bill. Necessary action to amend the Estate Duty Act for this purpose will be taken subsequently at a suitable opportunity. The proposals in the said clauses are fairly clear and I need not take the time of the House in dwelling upon the same now.

The other clauses of the Bill seek to carry out certain amendments to the Income-tax Act which have been found necessary either on account of some judicial decisions or as a result of the experience gained in the working of the Income-tax Act.

Clause 2 (i) of the Bill amends section 4 (3) of the Income-tax Act in order to give effect to an international practice, *viz.*, not to tax the floating staff working on a foreign ship on their income from salaries earned or received by them during the short period of the ship's stay in the territorial waters.

Clause 3 of the Bill makes an amendment to section 5 of the Income-tax Act so as to clarify the meaning of the word "case" appearing in the various sub-sections of that section. The powers conferred by sub-sections (2) and (5) of section 5 have always been held as enabling the Central Board of Revenue or the Commissioner of Income-tax to assign the case of any person to any Commissioner or Income-tax Officer respectively. Once such an assignment is made, all proceedings in relation to the person whose case is so assigned irrespective of the year to which they relate are to be carried on by the Income-tax authority to whom the case is assigned. However, as doubts have been expressed about the meaning of the relevant provisions as they stand, it is sought to be clarified by suitable explanation. The clarification will naturally cover all the proceedings hither to taken under the relevant provisions of the Income-tax Act. In this connection, a suggestion has been made that a slight addition to the amendment proposed may be made in order to further clarify the position. I, therefore, propose to move an amendment for this purpose to clause 3 after the motion that this Bill may be taken into consideration is passed.

Clause 4 amends section 10 of the Income-tax Act so as to provide that with effect from the assessment year 1960-61, development rebate will not be available to road transport vehicles and office appliances. When the provision for development rebate was introduced in 1955, the Finance Minister at that time had stated in clear terms that the benefit of this rebate will not be available to motorcars, office equipment, etc. While this was the intention, the courts have held that the intention had not been carried out by the existing language of section 10 (2) (vib). It is, therefore, proposed to make a suitable amendment to the said section in order to effectuate the Government's intention.

Clause 5 of the Bill makes an amendment to section 15B in order to provide that the donations paid to Government or a local authority to be utilised for charitable purposes would also qualify for exemption from tax in the same manner as donations made to any charitable institution satisfying the conditions laid down in that section.

Clause 7 amends section 46 of the Income-tax Act so as to bring within the meaning of the word "Collector" used in the section, other officers appointed or authorised to exercise the functions of a Collector in a State.

Clause 8 amends section 56A of the Income-tax Act so as to add to the list of basic industries mentioned in that section. As hon. Members are aware, that section confers an exemption from super-tax on dividends received by companies from new Indian companies engaged in the specified basic industries.

The other amendments proposed in the Bill are of a clarificatory nature. They are explained in the Notes on Clauses appended to the Bill and I would not like to take the time of the House to explain them here.

Sir, I move.

Mr. Speaker: Motion moved:

> "That the Bill further to amend the Indian Income-tax Act, 1922, the Wealth-tax Act, 1957, the Expenditure-tax Act, 1957 and the Gift-tax Act, 1958 be taken into consideration."

Shrimati Renu Chakravartty.

Shri C. D. Pande (Naini Tal): On a point of order, Sir,—it is not so much a point of order as a point of information from you—I would like to know whether it is possible or permissible to amend various Acts of Parliament by one Act. Only in the Finance Bill you can do so, but not in other Bills. Now, the Finance Minister has sought to amend four Acts in one piece of legislation which require serious consideration. I think it is not proper. It is proper that there should be a separate Bill for each Act to be amended.

Mr. Speaker: I think there will be much force in this suggestion that these amending Bills should be taken separately in case there is no common element, if these are absolutely un-connected, one relating to health, another to education and a third relating to taxation and all of them, for the sake of convenience are brought in the same Bill. If they are distinct and separate matters, they have to be discussed separately. In this case, the principal matter is whether the names of those persons who are defaultrs ought to be disclosed or not. Why should there be different Bills? There can be honest differences regarding this matter. That is a different matter. The hon. House may accept or reject that. There is a common thread so far as many of these items are concerned and the same Minister moves all of them. I do not think there is any constitutional objection to covering all these Acts. We have been doing so from time to time. The only point is that there ought to be no inconvenience to the House, and various disjointed matters ought not to be tacked on together for the purpose of discussion. These are not so disconnected.

Four hours have been allotted for all the stages of the Bill. How many hon. Members want to participate in the discussion?

Some Hon. Members rose—

Mr. Speaker: Eight. There are very few amendments to the clauses. Therefore, we may allow three hours for general discussion and one hour for the other stages of the Bill. Not more than 15 minutes each, because eight or nine Members want to speak, and, as we proceed, other Members also might like to participate.

Shri Prabhat Kar (Hooghly): I welcome the Bill as far as it goes, but I am sorry to find that the very important recommendation of the Tyagi Committee that the names of tax-evaders should be published has not been included in this amendment. I expected a comprehensive amendment of the taxation laws, so that we may get the revenues that we budget for, and deal effectively with evasion of taxes and arrears in collection which Government admit; though there may be some difference of opinion about the exact amount, every

[Shri Prabhat Kar]

one admits it is quite big. It was therefore expected that the law would be amended in such a manner that the lacunae found may be removed, and the suggestions made by the Committee incorporated. Actually, one recommendation has been accepted, and that too in a modified form, that the reason for not publishing a name shall be recorded in writing. It was suggested that the reasons, without mentioning the names, should be given in the annual administration report, but I do not know whether this recording in writing will be in the personal file of the person concerned to be kept in the office. I think Parliament should know exactly the reasons why the Government takes a decision not to publish such names. Parliament should be taken into confidence and at least the amendments of the last committee should be acacepted.

Many recommendations have been made with a view to improving the working of the taxation machinery and checking evasion of taxes. Before coming to the recommendations, I shall quote some figures to show the House the exact position today. At the end of 1958-59, the total amount of income-tax arrears was Rs. 271.16 crores, out of which Rs. 154.94 crores were demand raised more than two years earlier. Unless steps are taken, arrears will continue to mount every year, and attempts to raise revenue will be foiled.

On 1-4-1956 arrears in income-tax were Rs. 233.51 crores and on 1-4-1959 they were Rs. 287.32 crores. So, they are going up.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Effective arrears are only about Rs. 134 crores. We have just answered a question in the Rajya Sabha.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In reply to Unstarred Qunestion No. 312 it was said the effective arrears of income-tax, E. P. T., etc., as on 3-12-1958 was Rs. 174.73. With the coining of this new word "effective", about Rs. 100 crores have been taken away, and the figure has come down from Rs. 271 to Rs. 174 crores. I do not know what this "effective" means. Anyway, even the sum of Rs. 174.73 crores is not a very small amount. I want to know from Government what steps are being taken, why the amending Bill does not contain provisions to see that these arrears are collected rapidly, so that we may get the revenue that we budget for.

I would draw attention to the very a illuminating findings of the Taxation Enquiry Commission and also the old committee of 1951 which went into all these details. The Tyagi Committee has said:

> "Unless it is brought home to the potential tax evader that attempts at concealment will not only not pay but also actually land him in jail, there could be no effective check against tax evasion."

During the last ten years I want to know whether any steps have been taken to punish any tax-evader. This is what the Tyagi Committee has said:

> "One important reason for the prevalence of evasion is stated to be that in actual practice, no deterrent punishment like imprisonment is meted out to tax-evaders when they are caught. Though the direct taxes Acts provide for prosecution and imprisonment in cases of concealment and false statements in declarations, the department has not, during the last ten years, got even a single person convicted for evasion."

They have also made a suggestion that there should be no patronage by Government of tax-evader. * * *

May I draw your attention to the *Report on the Working of the Income tax Investigation Commission during*

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*Expunged, as ordered by the Chair.

1951? It has been stated therein at page 6 as follows:

> "What is most noteworthy in this case is not so much the mass of fabricated evidence and letters put in by the assessee, nor even the persistent opposition put up by him till the end, but the fact that some respectable persons same forward to support the assessee's false statements, both by written as well as oral evidence, statements which the assessee himself finally admitted as false before the Commission. It was admitted by him that he had procured the assistance of these high placed supporters by paying them sums of money which were not very considerable. What a sad commentary on the credibility of witnesses by reason of their status or wealth or position in society".

This is the state of affairs in this country.

Mr. Speaker: Order, order. If this Bill had been passed earlier, then the position might have been different. Of course, I know that from time to time there has been a demand from members of the House that the names of all the tax-evaders ought to be published, and a list also ought to be given. Possibly, this Bill might have been brought forward earlier. But only now the Bill has been brought forward. Hereafter, if any information is given by Government, certainly, it will be legitimate to refer to those honourable persons who never wanted to give information. Let us not now link up the one with the other. Let it stand as it is, and let us leave it to the people to judge.

Shri Prabhat Kar: This is the finding of the Income-tax Investigation Commission, and I am merely referring to it and saying that this is the present state of affairs also. It is a fact......

Mr. Speaker: That is why the hon. Minister has brought forward the Bill. Hereafter, hon. Members will be armed with all this.

Shri Prabhat Kar: In the Bill it is proposed to publish the names of persons against whom proceedings are going to be taken or punishment is going to be affected. I have pointed out to you already that for the last ten years, no punishment has been effected, and no cases have been instituted against any of these persons.

Mr. Speaker: Does the hon. Member suggest retrospective operation to this Bill?

Shri Prabhat Kar: No, Sir, It cannot be done. You know it. It is no good just saying that it will have retrospective effect. We may have the satisfaction that Parliament has given retrospective effect to it, but it will have no effect whatsoever on all the things that have been done in the past. My attempt is to point out to the House that this Bill is not sufficient for the purpose in view. I am quite sure that every section of the House is anxious to see that all the dues to Government are paid. Let not persons placed in high positions take advantage of those high positions or of friendship to dodge what is due to Government. It is not due to any individual; it is due to the community.

We have been hearing much about the duty to the community. Yesterday when we were discussing the strike of Central Government employees, we have been told that others are getting less and so the Central Government employees should not think of getting more. Now, here are highly-placed persons......

Mr. Speaker: Nobody says that the law ought not to be tightened. If the hon. Member wants to make any suggestions as to how the law can be made more stringent, he can do so.

Shri Prabhat Kar: That is what I have been pointing out. Very recently, the Direct Taxes Administration Inquiry Committee, presided over by Shri Tyagi, gave so many suggestions. There are certain suggestions which could have been incorporated with a view to see that at least Government take effective measures to collect all the arrears due to Government and give the least chances to tax-evaders.

Mr. Speaker: Is it the contention of the hon. Member that Rs. 170 crores are going to be written off?

Shri Prabhat Kar: No. I do not know. From Rs. 271 crores we have come down to Rs. 171 crores, effective arrears. We were told that Rs. 271 crores were the arrears. Now the word 'effective' has reduced the figure to Rs. 170 crores.

Mr. Speaker: Why is it that the nount to be collected has gone down om Rs. 271 crores to Rs. 170 crores?

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Some of it is ecoverable. It cannot be collected.

Mr. Speaker: Why?

Dr. B. Gopala Reddy: Some have gone to Pakistan. Companies have gone into liquidation. For 15 years they have been carrying on all these arrears. After all, at some point of time, we will have to write it off? But some collection was also made.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Minister may today or at some other time give for the information of the House details as to why these Rs. 100 crores cannot be collected.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: In my reply, I will certainly give that information.

Shri Prabhat Kar: My grouse is this: if Government do not collect it at the proper time, naturally in the long run, it will be very difficult to collect it. We have seen while in the Public Accounts Committee that by the time responsibility is fixed on an officer for an irregularity, lapse and so on, the officer has retired. Naturally, if Government do not take action at the proper time, the result will be that the country will lose Rs. 100 crores. This is my grouse against Government.

Even as regards this amount of Rs. 170 crores or Rs. 174 crores effective arrears, what is the machinery that the Government are going to think about to effect realisation? It is stated in the Report of 1951:

> "It is only when the Board's detective squad is both adequate in number and well-trained and equipped in technical skill that they can hope to match the skilled tax dodger who has the best brains in the country keenly watching for any weakness in the law or its machinery to escape taxation".

These are not my words. These are taken from the Report of the working of the Income-tax Investigation Commission during 1951. It is a tragedy that the best brains in the country, instead of being utilised for the collection of taxes, are being sold out to help those persons who want to evade taxes. I know it is very difficult for the Government to cope with that.

That is why my charge against the Government is that instead of bringing forward a really comprehensive Bill, they are proceeding in the way they are doing now. It is true that we may not be able to eliminate evasion, but it will be possible for us to limit it, to minimise it. To that end, we should make an all-out effort. That is why the Direct Taxes Administration Inquiry Committee discussed the matter and gave certain suggestions which up till now have not been accepted by Government. Even in the provision regarding publicity which has been put in here, there have been some slight modifications from the suggestion of the Committee.

It was suggested that remittances of foreign profits which are at present exempt under section 4(1) (b) (iii) of the Income-tax Act should be made taxable. It was also suggested that no official patronage or recognition or awards should be given to persons who have been penalised for concealment or in whose case prosecution proceedings have been taken; such persons should not be allowed to become members of any Committee or Commission appointed by Government. But I know—it may not be strictly relevant in this connection—that there is a person who was prosecuted not for tax evasion but for utilising the licence given for other purposes, who is a member of the Rehabilitation Advisory Committee. He has been convicted.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member is a very vigilant Member of the House. He might have brought all these matters to the notice of the Government by a question or some other way.

Shri Prabhat Kar: I think Government know perfectly well—perhaps better than what we know—about these things. If only they have the will, they could take action. It is not the lack of knowledge that stands in the way; it is not necessary for us to give the information. Perhaps Government know every detail of what I am speaking. It is the Government's desire to do anything that is the most important thing; it is not the law, nor the rules, but the desire of the Government to see that taxes are collected and collected properly that is most important.

I would like to draw your attention also to the suggestion that the Appellate Assistant Commissioner should be placed under the Ministry of Law.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: That has nothing to do with this Bill. The main Bill will be coming perhaps in the next session when all these matters could be discussed, whether the Appellate Assistant Commissioner should be under the Board of Revenue or of the Law Ministry and so on.

Shri Prabhat Kar: My point is that instead of hurrying with this type of legislation, Government could have brought forward a comprehensive Bill.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: I think the hon. Member can wait till the November Session.

Mr. Speaker: The scope of an amending Bill is limited to whatever sections have been touched upon in the Bill; other sections which are ancillary in character can be referred to, but not other matters which are not the subject-matter of the amending Bill.

Shri Prabhat Kar: What is the object of the Bill?

Mr. Speaker: Possibly the hon. Member wants to say that this Bill ought not to have been introduced because there are very many other important matters which have not been included in this, and therefore, a comprehensive Bill should be brought forward.

Shri Prabhat Kar: That is what I have said in the beginning.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: The comprehensive Bill is coming in the next session. But this is a very urgent matter.

Shri Prabhat Kar: As I said in the beginning, I expected a comprehensive Bill after the findings of the Tyagi Committee. The object of giving publicity is that if the names are published, perhaps the persons whose names will be published may be afraid of publicity against them and will try to pay up. The object of the Bill is to see that those who try to dodge and not pay at the correct time, do pay so that the publicity order may not be passed by Government. That

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is the intention. What I am suggesting is that in order to fulfil this object, not only will publicity have to be done, but many other things will have to be done. That is what I am bringing out by placing all these things before the House.

Mr. Speaker: He has said enough on 1e need for a comprehensive Bill, amely, that there are many other important matters referred to in the Tyagi Committee's Report and, therefore, a comprehensive Bill is necessary. He need not go into all the details; they are not relevant. It is enough to say that these are the more important, fundamental points which must have been included in a comprehensive Bill. The hon. Minister has said that he is bringing forward a comprehensive Bill. So the hon. Member may proceed to any other point regarding this subject. He has already taken a lot of time.

13 hrs.

Shri Prabhat Kar: Sir, I have spoken for a long time; the controversy has taken a lot of time.

Mr. Speaker: The hon. Member has not even table a motion for reference to a Select Committee in which case....

Shri Prabhat Kar: The Select Committee could not have much scope.

Mr. Speaker: If the Select Committee cannot do anything he cannot do anything.

Shri Prabhat Kar: We cannot do anything until the Finance Minister brings in a comprehensive Bill. So far as this Bill is concerned, I have already said that I welcome it as far as it goes.

Mr. Speaker: Then, he will please resume his seat.

Shrimati Renuka Ray (Malda): Mr. Speaker, Sir, there is no doubt that the objective of this Bill, namely to relax the secrecy provisions of the Income-tax Act, is a very good one. I do not agree with the last speaker when he questions the *bona fides* of the Government in this matter. But I do feel that some of the very important recommendations of the Tyagi Committee have not been taken into proper consideration when this Bill has been brought before this House.

I am talking now on a limited matter on which this Bill has been framed. The Enquiry Commitee has made some rather important recommendations. The total wealth statement as recommended in the chapter on assessments would be one of the most effective methods of checking tax evasion. I do not understand why that has not been brought within the scope of this Bill.

Even more important would be the effect of compulsory audit of accounts in cases of incomes above Rs. 50,000 from business, professions or avocations, also suggested in that chapter. It will help the assessing officers in the detection of concealments and manipulation of accounts. This also does not find a place in this particular Bill.

There are some other points like the one that the LIC should be required to furnish the name and address of every person taking a life insurance policy for sums aggregating to Rs. 50,000 or more, whether in his own name or jointly with another. I do not know why that has not been taken into consideration.

I do not want to make a long speech; but I only make these points.

The next point that I want to make is about the more wholesome suggestion that rules should be made to cast an obligation on government departments and quasi-government bodies for communicating information about payments made to contractors etc. to the collation branch of the Income-tax department. Here again I fail to understand why all these matters have not been taken into proper consideration when this Bill was brought here.

I do feel that we should have brought in a motion for reference to a Select Committee. I feel that even on the limited point that has been brought within the purview of this particular Bill the Tyagi Committee's recommendations are not being considered in their proper context. There are many other suggestions some of which also might hinge on this; and there is no point in my recounting every one of them.

In order that the department should function in a proper and satisfactory manner, the Tyagi Committee has made another important suggestion, which is, the time and labour should have some relation to the revenue potential. For instance, is it necessary to scrutinise in every detail incomes which are only up to Rs. 7,500 a year? Would not once in four years do? That is a very wholesome suggestion which I would request the hon. Minister to consider. Even now, if he agrees, this can be sent to a Select Committee and this point taken into consideration.

There are many other points which might be considered beyond the limited scope of this Bill and I would not bring them up here except to mention them. As the Bill deals with the question of tax evasion it should do so more effectively.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: No, no.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: They have suggested that the President of the Appellate Tribunal should be a serving High Court Judge. That is also an important point; but I do not know whether it is beyond the scope of this Bill.

I have made these points because I do feel that the Bill as it stands is very inadequate and is also liable to be misunderstood by the people. When a committee has been appointed which has taken a great deal of trouble and labour over many points, before the Government comes forward with a Bill on any subject on which this committee has made recommendations, it should, I think, take into consideration all the points made. It hardly behoves on Government to bring a Bill on one point out of a host of recommendations which form a structure together. This is true not only of this particular Ministry of Government. A great deal of labour has been lost on a particular point; and recommendations are made in order to effect it or implement it. In order to implement it, the Committee has gone into a detailed consideration of all the things that are required. But, when Government takes up one suggestion and leaves out others, which, as I said, make a complete whole, then, the very object for which the Committee has made the recommendations is sometimes completely lost sight of or is imperfectly achieved as in the case of this particular Bill. I would, therefore, request the hon. Minister, even at this stage, to consider the appointment of a Select Committee to consider all these points that have not been taken into consideration.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: They will all be incorporated in the main Bill that is to come in the November session; but this has only a very limited scope.

Shri Supakar (Sambalpur): This provision will not be incorporated in that Bill.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Once these provisions are passed now, they would not be there in the other Bill.

Shrimati Renuka Ray: What is the object of this Bill? To relax the secrecy provisions of the Indian Income-tax Act. Why have you brought in a Bill to provide for this change in the secrecy provisions? The Committee has made 4 or 5 more suggestions for that. Why should you take this particular one and leave the others out?

I would say that even for this limited purpose you should have a Select Committee. It might have been better to bring all in one Bill. But, since you have brought this separately I would not object to it. I would only say that the recommendations of the Tyagi Committee have more fundamental points which must also be considered.

I would request the hon. Minister again to have a Select Committee appointed so that other points may also be taken into consideration by it. The Select Committee can report in a few days' time and the Bill may be passed during the course of this session.

With these words I would request the Minister to take into consideration the other points which directly hinge on this particular amendment that has been brought before the House.

Shri Ranga (Tenali): Sir, I am also in favour of the suggestion that, if the hon. Minister does not consider it too late and too difficult for him, he may accede to the request of so many of us to refer the Bill to a Select Committee.

I have to take special objection to one particular item, and that is, giving discretion to Government not to publish certain names for fear that they might lose some more income to be got from some of those people whose names are to be exempted from being published. What is the main object with which this Bill is being brought forward here? Government wish to be empowered to be able to publish the names of all these tax evaders who have played mischief with the Government and the public and in that way put them to shame and give a warning to various other people not to follow their bad example but on the other hand play fair with the Government and the public and pay what is due from them by way of tax. If that is the main objective of the Government, I would like to know why the Government wish to give themselves this particular power of exempting the publication of certain names. It would only mean that they would like, if they so wish, to favour some individuals or groups or categories of individuals or people belonging to certain States or castes or certain friends or certain Ministers under certain political influences and interests in regard to whom they want to show a favour. That is very dangerous.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: In the interest of revenue—not in the interest of any Minister.

Shri Ranga: Not even a Minister but some officer in the Central Board of Revenue. He will initiate the proceedings and say that in the interest of revenue this is being done. The Minister in the end, in a blind-folded manner, signs it. I do not know whether it need have to come to the Minister's notice at all as the Minister is not expected to be bothered about all these things except when the Minister is interested in a particular person. Otherwise, various other people will be interested. There are interests and interests. We are asked not to trust those people who are income-tax payees. Is it not also equally relevant to say: let us not trust those people. Are we seriously expected to believe that all the tax evasion is taking place merely because of the bad character of the assessees and not because of any kind of co-operation at any stage or level from the officers and the departments concerned. My hon. friend Dr. Gopala Reddi himself cannot very well subscribe to that. There are officers and officers and income-tax payees and payees. We want to take this particular safeguard and warn all these people that if at any time they were misbehave and they were punished, their names are going to be placed before the public.

Similarly, we have got to make that very clear to the departments concerned that no freedom or initiative will be given to these people to show any kind of favour at all even in the so-called 'interest of revenue'. Why should the Government ask us to place so much faith in themselves and their *bona fides?* According to the common law, everyone should be expected to be honest unless he is found to be guilty. On that basis alone so much leniency and consideration had been shown for so long to that part of the public who have been income-tax payees. You are bidding good-bye to that and making an exception now. Ever since income-tax has been introduced in this country, their accounts and their facts and figures could be kept a secret in the archives of the Government. But you have chosen to make an exception now. In that case, why do you want to give yourselves, the Government, this particular obnoxious power and take this onerous responsibility on your own shoulders in not publising some names. I would like to remind my hon. friend and the Government of what happened some years ago when one of our colleagues happened to the Minister in charge of Finance and he got into trouble with the Congress Ministry and later on with Parliament for not having taken Parliament into confidence at an early enough stage in regard to the exemption that he had given for certain people's cases being sent up to the special income-tax tribunal or whatever it was. He had to resign. The House insisted upon its rights and not only in integrity but also on the seeming or appearance of integrity on the part of the Finance Minister. I would like to warn my hon. friend Dr. Gopala Reddy himself and all the other Ministers of the danger and the risk that they are running by placing on their own shoulders this terrible responsibility.

Now, what does this sub-clause (4) say? It is repeated three times for the three taxes referred to and whoever has drafted it seems to have been an artist and in each one of these it happens to be sub-clause (4). It says that notwithstanding anything contained in the relevant section, the Central Government may refrain from publishing the name of any person. It is not the Minister. It may be any person in the Central Board of Revenue who may be allowed to have the power to sign a paper. It goes on:

> "....if it is satisfied that in the interests of revenue it is not necessary so to do, and where the Central Government refrains from publishing the name of any person, the reason for not publishing the name shall be recorded in writing."

It will be kept on their own records How do I come to know about it? How on earth are we to know whether these people have done it in the right way or the wrong way? It is there as their monopoly. Government is asking for monopolies in various other directions and it is asking for it here also. If not for any other reason, at least for a proper reconsideration of this particular sub-clause I would like him to agree to allow this Bill to go before the Select Committee.

Now, there is one other clause 59(B).

> "Where a person makes an application to the Commissioner in the prescribed form and after payment of the prescribed fee for information as to the amount of tax determined as payable by any assessee in respect of any assessment made on or after the 1st day of April, 1960, the Commissioner, may, notwithstanding anything contained in section 54, if he is satisfied that there are no circumstances justifying its refusal, furnish or cause to be furnished the information asked for".

At present I do not know what amount is paid by way of income-tax by some one; I am not also interested. But this induces me to put in an application and find out.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: On payment of fees.

Shri Ranga: Yes, a fee of Re. 1 or Rs. 2|-.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: More.

Shri Ranga: Even if it is Rs. 100, it was likely that I would get ten times that amount that I invest in getting this information. I would naturally be induced to ask for this information. Even in regard to an honest person, if I were to send an anonymous latter saying that I have taken this information and if he were prepared to pay, say, Rs. 10,000 or Rs. 20,000 to me I will keep quiet and otherwise, I will do something. That consideration will have to be paid. This will be an inducement. I am all in favour of everybody being honest in the payment of dues to the Government. I come from a class of people who do not have even a chance of escaping tax. If we own five or ten acres the Government knows how much we have got to pay and to the last pie we are made to pay and we have been paying so for ages and it is natural that we are interested in seeing that the other tax assessees should also be made to pay and are encouraged to pay their full share of the tax burdens. All that is accepted. But, at the same time, surely, it is not proper that we should give this opportunity for these people who are bent upon mischief to play this mischief taking advantage of this 59B given on page 7 of this Bill. Therefore, I would like my hon. friend to give some consideration to this.

At the same time, constituted as we are, I am not quite sure whether the Government will be willing to send this Bill to a Select Committee, whether it would have the initiative even at this stage to say that it is withdrawing this in anticipation of the bigger one to come or it is itself withdrawing these two small sub-clauses, sub-clause (4) of 59A and 59B. If the Government are not willing to do that, all that I can expect them to do is not to forget what we have said, to keep these things in mind and when they come back again to us with a more comprehensive Bill to make a special provision to see that these two obnoxious provisions, sub-clause (4) of 59A and 59 are withdrawn, or they do not find any place at all in the consolidated Bill that they would be bringing before the House.

Shri Morarka (Jhunjhunu): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would have also very much liked this Bill to be referred to a Select Committee mainly for four reasons: firstly, because this Bill seeks to amend as many as four different Acts; secondly, because it involves a major principle; thirdly, because it seeks to give certain concessions to certain companies in respect of certain industries. You have a list of industries drawn up and the question as to why certain industries have been included and why certain others have been excluded requires a little careful examination; and, finally, because the provisions included in this Bill go far beyond the scope of the recommendations of the Tyagi Committee.

Now, I would refer here mainly to three sets of clauses in this Bill. Firstly, I want to make a reference briefly to clause 4 which seeks to amend section 10 of the Income-tax Act. A proviso is being added now which seeks to make it clear that no development rebate would be allowed on office appliances or road transport vehicles.

Shri Supakar: There is an amendment to delete "road transport vehicles". That is going now.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Whose amendment?

Shri Supakar: Government amendment.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: That is Shri Masani's amendment.

Shri Supakar: I thought it was a Government amendment.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): Shri Masani is not yet in the Government.

Shri Morarka: The hon. Minister while moving his motion for consideration of the Bill gave certain justifications for this proviso. He said that the then Finance Minister had made it clear to this House that the development rebate could not be allowed on office equipments and motor cars. It is quite true. If the Government is so inclined and the Minister so feels they may not allow development rebate on motor cars,—motor cars used by company's executives etc. But "motor cars" is quite a different thing from "road transport vehicles". There are many road transport companies. Their total plant equipment or their means of earning, whatever you may call it, consists only of road transport vehicles. What is the justification for giving development rebate in the case of all other industries except in the case of this road transport industry?

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur (Pali): They are already in a very bad state of affairs.

Shri Morarka: You have already imposed more taxation by way of increased excise duty on diesel oil, on tyres, on engines and various other things. Now you want to deprive them of this development rebate also. Surely, Sir, there must be some scientific reason for this. Why do you want to exclude them? Why do you want to punish the road transport industry? Do you think the development in this industry is superfluous now, we have already reached the saturation point and we do not need any further development of this road transport industry, or is it that you want to give some indirect protection to your railways and therefore you want to put down this road transport industry? Sir, I feel that since our main aim in giving development rebate is to give incentive to all sorts of industries, this development rebate should also be allowed at least on transport vehicles, though it may not be allowed on motor cars.

13.25 hrs.

[PANDIT THAKUR DAS BHARGAVA *in the Chair*]

Now I come to clause 8. Clause 8 seeks to amend Section 56A of the income-tax Act. With your permission, Sir, I would like to read Section 56A. It reads like this:

> "56A. (1) No super-tax shall be payable by a company on such part of its total income as consists of dividends received from an Indian company formed and registered after the 31st day of March, 1952, where—
>
> (i) the Central Government is satisfied that the Indian company is wholly or mainly engaged in an industry for the manufacture or production of any one or more of the following, namely:—"

Then, there is a list of those products given. Clause 8 of this Bill now seeks to enlarge that list. I have no objection if the Government feels that for the development of a particular industry some special concession is to be given. My main objection is, why is this concession confined only to the companies? Why do you give the relief from super-tax only to a company? If a person holds shares in a company and that company is engaged in the manufacture of the things listed by you, why not give him also the same tax concession. If you want to develop industry, surely you can say that any person receiving income from that industry would be exempt from super-tax. I can understand that, but why confine this only to companies?

Sir, I was a member of the Joint Committee on the Indian Companies (Amendment) Bill. There the tendency of the Government was to discourage interlocking of funds, investment of funds by one company in another. Here, by means of this clause, what you are doing is precisely to encourage the investment of funds by one company in another company. Surely there must be some consistency in our policy. The Third Five Year Plan says that there is a lot of tax evasion, because of interlocking of funds, interlocking of directors etc. This concession surely does not discourage interlocking of funds.

There is another point that I want to make on this clause. On what basis have you selected these further industries? Are they the industries that are enumerated in the Industries Regulation Act? Are they those industries that have been given top priority in the Third Five Year Plan? On what basis have you selected them? Why have you excluded some and included others? If there is an industry the development of which is not desired in the national interest and that industry has been excluded I can understand it. But if there are industries in which people are not quite anxious to invest or they are not coming forward but if those industries are considered essential in the national interest then, surely, such industries which satisfy certain criteria which you may formulate must be entitled to get concession from the Government.

So I would have very much liked the hon. Minister to recommend that this Bill be referred to a Select Committee where all these things could have been examined in great detail. But since the hon. Minister says that a more comprehensive Bill is coming in the next session I hope by that time the Minister would consider what little I have said on this point and if he finds it possible he might bring further amendments.

Now I go on to the main clauses of this Bill, which are clauses Nos. 9, 11, 12 and 13. These clauses purport to relax the provision concerning secrecy about the income-tax, the wealth tax, the expenditure tax and the gift tax. Before I proceed with this point I would like to bring to the notice of the House as to why this provision of secrecy was considered necessary at all. That I would like to tell in the words of the Indian Taxation Enquiry Committee, 1924-25, also known as the Todhunter Committee. In para 250, it is said:

> "Unless assessees are satisfied that their income-tax returns will be used only for the purpose of assessing them to income-tax, it is impossible to except them to furnish correct returns and for this reason, the maintenance of secrecy is an important factor in the development of an efficient administration of the income-tax in India."

This is the principle which has guided us all these years for maintaining the secrecy clause.

It is true that before 1922, the secrecy was not so absolute as it was made in 1922. Before 1922, any person whose income-tax payable was less than Rs. 2,000 would have his name notified. But in 1922, for some reason or other, it was considered essential and secrecy provisions were made absolute. The Bill which is before the House seeks to relax this provision in two ways, firstly about the amount of tax determined to be payable by an assessee and another in respect of the penalties imposed on an assessee in connection with the concealment of income or in connection with delay or failure to submit returns, etc. I will take the second aspect first, *viz.*, provision concerning the penalities.

It is provided in this Bill under the new section 59A that any assessee on whom a penalty of Rs. 5000 or more has been imposed is liable to get his name publicised. Rather, if he has been fined Rs. 5000 or more under section 28 (1) (c) for concealment of income, then his name shall be published, unless, of course, it is in the interest of revenue not to publish it. That is an obligation cast on the Government to publish that name. Similarly, if a person is prosecuted under section 52, then also his name shall be published.

In this connection, I want to submit that the Tyagi Committee made a recommendation that names of those persons on whom a penalty of less than Rs. 5,000 is imposed should not be published. But under this Bill, Government is taking the power to do so if the amount is Rs. 5000 or such smaller amounts as the Govern- floor limit which the Tyagi Comment may notify. That means, the floor limit which the Tyagi Committee in its wisdom recommended to the Government, is being removed. Secondly, the main thing which the Tyagi Committee recommended was the publication of such name should be withheld till his penalty is finally confirmed by the final appellate authority, whether it is a court or a tribunal. Here the provision is, that the names shall be published if penalty is confirmed by the Appellate Assistant Commissioner, who is a departmental man. That would not give any protection to the public. So much about part (a) of new section 59A.

Part (b) of section 59A, which has not at all been recommended by the Tyagi Committee or for the matter of that by any other committee which examined this problem, is that even those persons are liable to have their names published on whom a penalty has been imposed for delay in submitting returns or for any other reason such as not complying with notice under section 22, etc. In this case, the publication is not mandatory; the Government has the discretion. Government may or may not publish those names, but the Government have taken that power. This is also beyond the scope of the recommendations of the Tyagi Committee.

The Tyagi Committee only said that only in cases where there is a concealment of income and the penalty has been determined by the highest tribunal or ultimate authority, then and then only these names should be published. At this stage may I refer to the relevant recommendations of the Tyagi Committee. It is at pages 186 and 187.

> "We have considered the matter carefully and came to the conclusion that in view of the deterrent effect it would have on attempts at evasion, the names of all persons in whose cases penalties have been levied for Rs. 5,000 or more for the concealment of income, wealth, expenditure, etc. should be published by the Commissioners, in the gazette as well as in the press, giving details of their names, addresses and amounts of penalties. If the assessee concerned is a company or firm, the names of all the directors of the company or partners of the firm, as the case may be, should be published unless it has been established that only a particular director or partner was responsible for the evasion. The publication should be made only after the penalty had become final in appeal and reference. We recommended, however, that the Central Board of Revenue should have discretion to withhold the publication of names in suitable cases, but the number of cases in which such information was withheld, and the reasons therefor, should be given in the annual administration report but without mentioning the names of such persons."

This is the recommendation of the Tyagi Committee. Before that also, the Taxation Enquiry Commission of 1954, presided over by the late lamented Dr. Mathai, rejected this publication altogether. Before that, the 1924-25 Commission also made a very limited recommendation. Every Commission that has applied its mind to this problem has made a recommendation which is a very cautious and qualified recommendation. But the Bill before us goes far beyond the recommendations of these commissions. I do hope that the hon. Minister will give in his reply the reasons why they have considered it necessary to enlarge the scope of the Tyagi Committee and go beyond those recommendations.

There are practical difficulties in the proposition as contained in the Bill which I am submitting to you. The position is that as soon as the Assistant Appellate Commissioner confirms, those names can be published. We know how these Appellate Assistant Commissioners deal with these matters. In every case which involves a substantial amount, these Assistant Appellate Commissioners shudder to take the responsibility of correcting the assessments of the ITO; even if they are convinced, they feel the matter be better left to the Tribunal. In 90 per cent of cases, the assessee gets the real relief only at the tribunal. That is the main reason why time and again attempts are made to see that these Appellate Assistant Commissioners are removed from the administrative control of the income-tax department and put under the Law Ministry.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Why not under the Home Ministry?

Shri Morarka: If you like the Home Ministry better, you may do so; but certainly they should not be in the Finance Ministry, because for promotions, transfer and everything, they have to look to the Income-tax Commissioner.

The Tyagi Committee has also recommended this.

Shri C. D. Pande: You take those which are useful to you and not which are wholesome.

Shri Morarka: I hope when the Government brings a comprehensive legislation they will incorporate all this.

What I am trying to submit is before a person's name is published he must have the satisfaction that he was really guilty and that the penalty which is imposed on him is payable by him. Nothing would be lost if the name is not published immediately and is published after some time.

Now I come to the question of delay. Inordinate delays are involved in deciding appeals in the first and second stage. It may be the argument of the Government that a lot of time would be taken and the real purpose of publishing the name would be defeated if we were to make this concession. Surely, Government can see to it that every appeal concerning income-tax or wealth-tax is decided within six months or one year from the date it is filed. Now appeals are pending for the last 12, 14 or 15 years. The Government have their grievance that the tax is not paid. The House feels that it is in arrears and many questions are put. The assessee has a grievance that he has already been charged a heavy tax and under coercive methods a lot of tax is collected from him which in fact he is not liable to pay. What is the reason for the delays in deciding appeals ranging up to 10 or 15 years?

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: By whom?

Shri Morarka: By the appellate authority at the first stage.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: What about the Tribunal and High Court?

Shri Morarka: In Tribunal also it takes some time but nothing like the first appeal. In the High Court once they sit they decide them quickly.

There is no parallel anywhere to the time taken here on the first appeal. What I am speaking is from personal experience. I am not here to say things from hearsay or quote statements of some irresponsible persons nor do I want to score a debating point. On the one hand, Government feels that it loses revenue by non-collection. On the other hand, the assessee is having a complaint that tax matters are not finalised within a reasonable time and they are harrassed.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: In most cases he is interested in getting it delayed because he has to pay money.

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): The money has to be deposited earlier.

Shri Morarka: I may tell him that if everything happens according to the wishes of the assessees the tax will be in arrears till the appeals are decided. If that was the law probably your machine would have moved in a different way. What happens is that the tax amount is collected. There are very intelligent people in the department. They realise that the tax will have to be refunded, if they decide the appeals. He does not take a decision even if he is convinced that a refund is legitimately due. He remits the case to the ITO for further report. The ITO again does not submit the report for five years. There are any number of cases which I can point out.

Now, if the tax was not collected by the State from the assessee I can understand the Minister's suggestion that they are interested in delaying the appeal. But, unfortunately that is not so. Anyway, my only hope is that the Minister would apply his mind to this complaint and he would see his way to provide that these names would not be published unless this penalty is confirmed by the Tribunal at least. Let him not give the benefit of the High Court or the Supreme Court. But him not stop with the departmental appeal which is not an appeal in the real sense. It is a mockery. I know that facts and figures are given in percentages and it is pointed out that so much relief has been given to so many assessees in the first appeal. I know that. But that is only a mathematical maze. One can confuse others with figures in so many ways.

Coming to the second point, namely, clause 59B, this clause gives the members of the public a right to apply to the Commissioner of Income-tax in a prescribed manner on a prescribed form after paying the prescribed fee to get the figures of the amount of tax determined to be payable by an assessee. Here also I must congratulate the Tyagi Committee for its vision and foresight. The Tyagi Committee said that the amount to be disclosed is the amount mentioned by the assessee in his income-tax returns. Here you say the amount to be disclosed would be the amount of tax determined to be payable. Determined to be payable at what stage. By the ITO or the Assistant Commissioner or by the Tribunal or by the High Court? The taxes in many cass, particularly in the cases about we are all anxious to know, is not determined by the ITO, nor by the Assistant Appellate Commissioner. Mostly it is determined by the tribunal and in a few cases even by the High Court and the Supreme Court.

Now there is again a genuine difficult proposition and the assessees are likely to suffer. Suppose an ITO makes an assessment of a certain assessee and, as usual, to be on the safer side makes a heavy assessment. That heavy assessment would naturally impose a heavy tax liability on the assessee. The assessee knows that this liability is untenable and that he is going to win the case. Even then the ITO, who does not want to be suspected and who does not want to take any risk makes an assessment on the side of the revenue. Now, the moment the figures are publicised, the moment a person come to know the figures he can tell his bankers and other business competitors and other credit institutions "Look here, so and so has been assessed for this amount and there is such a big tax liability on him". Before he takes this matter to the next appeal or to the final appeal and gets his exact liability determined there is every chance that the bank may say "we have seen there is such a big liability on you; you better pay off our loan" and other business competitors might take advantage of this position. I beg to submit that while I am not against this provision of giving this information to the public—give it by all means, the way this Bill is drafted and the way the information is sought to be given is likely to harm the assessees more than the good it may confer on them. Even in other countries, examples of which the Tyagi Committee have quoted—I would not like to refer to them—the position is the same. About wealth tax a provision of publishing this information exists in Japan. In the Net Worth Law of Japan, article 31 provides, "All returns received will be posted for public inspection for at least one month, indicating the details of the tax payers and the taxable values of the estates concerned".

What is available for inspection in Japan is also the return submitted by the assessee, not by the amount of tax as determined. If the phrase is "tax determined" as the amount of tax determined by the High Court or Tribunal I have no objection. But if he means by that the tax determined by the first officer, namely, the ITO, surely the Minister would realise the dangers of this scheme where assessees would be unnecessarily subjected to this hardship and many of them may even face a financial crisis.

I do not want to give the names but I know of cases where the ITO has assessed for an income of more than Rs. 25 lakhs, in the final court the amounts were reduced to Rs. 3 lakhs.

This is not just one case. I am not quoting this by way of an exception. The Assistant Appellate Commissioners did not give any relief and summarily rejected his appeal. It is only when the matter goes to the tribunal where there are independent persons who are not so revenue minded that they give the relief. Therefore, I would beg of the hon. Minister to consider this point seriously.... (*Interruption*).

Shri C. D. Pande: He must have time to consider.

Shri Morarka: ....and at least accept this that before it is published it should be finally determined by the last court of appeal. So also the amount of tax before it is disclosed must be determined by the final authority or, as the Tyagi Committee had recommended, only the returns of the assessees should be disclosed. I do not think any hardship would be caused to anybody or that public interest would suffer in any way by having this procedural change which I have ventured to suggest.

Shri Supakar: Mr. Chairman, Sir, this Bill shows the dffiiculties that we have to face in introducing this scheme or splinter legislation like this without taking into consideration its consequences. Of course the hon. Minister has promised that a more comprehensive Bill which will take into consideration all the important recommendations of the Tyagi Committee will be brought before this House during the next session of Parliament, but when that Bill is brought it will not probably cover the few subjects which form part of the present Bill.

Unfortunately this Bill which ought to have been referred to a Joint Committee has not been referred to that. I had a mind to give a notice of that kind, but you know the difficulty in the case of a motion for reference to the Joint Committee in the collection of names which is very difficult when a private Member gives notice of such a motion.

Shri C. D. Pande: You may point any five names.

Shri Supakar: Evidently, you will find that there are very many defects in the Bill which are apparent at first sight. If you read this Bill after going through the Tyagi Committee's Report, you will find that there is very little explanation and very little solution of a way out of the problems that may crop up.

Before coming to the subject matter of the Bill I shall refer only to one matter—the most vital matter which is the subject matter of this Bill, that is, regarding the publication of information respecting penalties. Clause 9 provides for the publication of names of persons on each of whom a penalty amounting to not less than Rs. 5,000/- has been imposed. But this does not say whether that person includes a company. Specially in the present case it should have been mentioned, as was suggested by the Tyagi Committee, in respect of those companies on whom a penalty of Rs. 5,000/- or more has been imposed, as to who are the persons whose names are to be publicised. That should have found specific mention in the present Bill.

Now, coming to the provisions of the Bill I would say that in criminal jurisprudence, as you know, the presumption of innocence is a fundamental principle. A person is presumed to be innocent till he is proved to be guilty. Similarly, in the case of taxation laws a person is entitled to take advantage of all the loopholes that he can find in the law and he cannot be said to have committed any offence, vice or sin if he takes ad-advantage of the possible loopholes in a particular taxation law. Therefore it is the duty of the State to see that the legislation is as perfect and as foolproof as they can possibly make it. The conflict between the assessees and the income-tax authorities rises only when this fundamental principle is lost sight of. On the one hand the assessees try to take the fullest advantage of all the possible loopholes in the taxation laws, on the other hand the income-tax officers and the appellate authorities try to interpret the law in the best way possible to the extent of getting the maximum amount of tax from the assessee. Not only it is their interest to get the maximum amount to tax but it also involves their future prospects and promotion. This is also the case of the appellate authorities. That is one of the main grounds why there has been a contention by most people, specially by the assesses, big and small, that the appellate authorities should be made independent of the department.

The recommendation made by the Tyagi Committee seeks to find a *via media* and a way out of this conflict by providing for the publication of information and also, under proposed section 59 (B), about disclosure of information respecting tax payable. I think there is a lot of scope for improving the wording of this clause. Unfortunately it has not been possible to give any particular amendment, but I would say that even as it is unless the Government, who have been empowered to publicise the information, take special care in this matter there is a lot of scope for further evasion and for corruption.

It is just possible that when the income-tax officers or the appellate authorities impose penalties of an amount of more than Rs. 5,000|-that may or may not be without sufficient justification. Therefore I believe and hope that whenever the question of publication of information comes the Central Board of Revenue, or whoever is in charge of this publication must examine each case himself or get it examined by some authority who is superior to the persons who are actually dealing with the assesses in order to have a very objective judgment of the penalty so that there may not be reasonable cause of grievance in the minds of the assessees who have been penalised that the penalty imposed on them is unjustified.

[Shri Supakar]

Now, regarding the disclosure of informaton I would submit that to my mind there is on justficaton in giving a blanket power of giving the Commissioner the authority to grant copies of the information regarding the amount of tax determined as payable by an assessee. There must be some specific rule prescribed to show under what circumstances this information should be supplied to a private person. If a wide power is given it is likely to be misused.

14 hrs.

Under the provison as it is, and to which Prof. Ranga made a reference, about the exceptions to the publicatiion and to the exception to the disclosure, a lot of discretion is given, and it is said in clause (4) of the proposed section 59A that where the Central Government refrains from publishing the name of any person, the reason for not publishing the name shall be recorded in writing. Also in the proposed section 59B it is said:

> "Where a person makes an application to the Commissioner in the prescribed form and after payment of the prescribed fee for information as to the amount of tax determined as payable by any assessee in respect of any assessment made on or after the 1st day of April, 1960, the Commissioner may, notwithstanding anything contained in section 54, if he is satisfied that there are no circumstances justifying its refusal, furnish or cause to be furnished the information asked for."

Now, in the past grave suspicion has been caused in the public mind on account of the exceptions provided, and motives have been imputed in some cases about the exceptions made in respect of particular persons. In respect of these cases which are governed by the proposed sections 59A and 59B it is evident that these cases will concern very big persons, and probably millionaires who would be tax-dodgers. Therefore, if the Central Government takes special power under the proposed section 59A and invests the Commissioners with these powers under the proposed section 59B they must be very careful to see that there is no cause for suspicion. It is quite evident that Caesar's wife must be above suspicion, and therefore by providing these exceptions to these provisions the Government make themselves open to criticism and suspicion and the power is likely to be misused by some unscrupulous officers or persons.

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri (Nabadwip): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I think that in bringinng this Bill forward we have taken a leaf from the Roman law which enjoins "render unto Caesar that which is due to Caesars". That should be done. And we have also taken the application of that law as was done in ancient Rome that when people did not render unto Caesar that which was Caesar's, they were placed in front of the Senate and they were told "Here are the men who have not rendered unto Caesar that which was Caesar's" which is really a very admirable practice. I am very glad that we are out to do this in India.

But apart from the amount of good that this Bll is likely to do, here are certain lacunae in it which I would appeal to the hon. Minister to look into before he really proceeds with it. I will first answer some of the criticisms that have been made, from the Opposition Benches. I do not think, that there are vast amounts of arrears left to Government only due to tax evaders. The arrears that have been left are not only due to tax evaders as such who, unless if they are tax evaders, are very nice people. But there are many causes: people have gone away, there are cases pending, people have gone away to Pakistan, it is a legacy of the war that has been left to us. So all these arrears amount to various things that have been left to us and it is not only the tax evader that is responsible for this but many factors. However, let the tax evader be brought out. I have no objection to that.

But in this Bill Prof. Ranga said—he is no longer with us in the party and it is difficult to agree with him he referred to three clauses, the proposed section 59A of the Income-tax Act, the proposed section 42B in the case of the amendment to the Wealth Tax Act, and also, the proposed section 41B in the case of the amendment to the Gift-tax Act. Well, it is a fact that if anybody at all goes and pays a fee and wants to know all the information respecting the tax paid, he is liable to get it. Does it not open the door of harassment to the assessee? You want revenues for the Government. That is true, and everybody is willing that you should have it. But by harassing the assessee you will not get more revenues. And on top of that I think this very clause may work in backgear which as a supporter of the party I would never like it to do. Because, if I am taxpayer and somebody has gone and asked for this information, and it is not really justified, and I have been harassed about this......

Dr. B. Gopala Reddi: Why?

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri ....well, my next reaction will be: why has this been done; perhaps because Government has been in collusion. And your whole department and the whole Government comes in for criticism. As one speaker on the other side also said, Caesar's wife must be above reproach —in this case, Sir, Caesar's wife is the Government—and we must protect the Government from every kind of reproach possible and we must not leave loopholes where this can be done.

So I would certainly suggest that it is pointless creating an atmosphere of distrust in the country. It is much better that we have a positive approach. Let the names of such people who are really proved to be tax evaders certainly be put up. I have no objection to that. But let that scrutiny be so perfect that it is not made public till it is positively proved. Take for instance any wealth tax. When it is sought to be brought to the notice of the Government the assessment may have been that the house is worth Rs. 10 lakhs. I have no income from that house. But, may be, I am liable to pay a certain tax. If I am to be harassed, somebody can go and get this information and then supply the information saying, "Look, I have seen that house and it is worth Rs. 50 lakhs."

Then, what happens? I am harassed till I can re-prove it again. Very often, as we all know, the Income-tax department even charges extra taxes which they sometimes return after going through everything. I, myself having been charged in excess, after a long time it was returned. I think, at one time, I got back Rs. 15 from the Income-tax department.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddy: Refund?

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: Yes. I got it back because they had charged it in excess, after I had written to them. I think I must have spent another Rs. 15 in stamps. However, it was very sweet when it came back and I got chocolates and gave to the children.

Dr. B. Gopala Reddy: Gave it to some officer?

Shrimati Ila Palchoudhuri: No, no. I gave it to some children because this was certainly income again, which I never expected. This is a very small instance. I would certainly say that the three clauses do make us open to harassment and I should ask the hon. Minister to consider this very much more seriously before he really goes into the Bill and has it passed, because, being Members of the party, we will pass it. Although we want revenues to accrue to the Government, I would also say that we do not want the general public to be harassed. All that is Caesar's should surely come to Caesar. But, those who are caesar's subjects have every right to be considered and no harassment or inconvenience should be caused to them.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Mr. Chairman, so far as the other provisions of the Bill are concerned, apart from the provisions relating to disclosure, I do not think the House will have any objection. Perhaps the hon. Minister will bear in mind the comments made by my hon. friend Shri Morarka in connection with clause 8.

Apart from that, we come to the most controversial clause of this Bill, namely, the publication of the names of those people who have been convicted and disclosure of assessment. I think there should be absolutely no objection to the first because, as a matter of fact, they are published in the newspapers as reports from law courts. I do not think Government is going to expose them to extra penalty by publishing it in the Government Gazette which particularly nobody reads.

Apart from that, the real issue that arises is, should we entitle any person to procure the details with regard to the assessment of a particular assessee. I am at one with the Government that so far as tax evaders are concerned, efforts should be made to bring every moral pressure and pressure of social opinion upon them so that there should be less tax evasion. Let us analyse as practical men, what exactly will be the outcome of this. As the hon. Minister, in the course of his speech rightly pointed out, what is going to be disclosed is not a statement of particulars of the source of income of the assessee. All that will be disclosed is that such and such an assessee has been assessed to such and such a figure, which means that nobody is wiser for that. Suppose, for instance, somebody applied for disclosure of my income. He is told that I have been assessed to Rs. 10,000 Income-tax, in that year. How is he wiser whether this income is derived from my profession or from my Parliament salary or from dividends or from house rent or from any other securities or any other source of income? How does it help at all in checking evasion? That is my point. If the Government, with all the machinery, with all the knowledge not only of what the assessee is assessed to, but the fullest particulars of income, with all the powers to call for still more detailed particulars, with all this information at their disposal, cannot check evasion, how is a private individual going to achieve that result by merely having the figure of the assessment being communicated to him? I think this is a question which the Government should bear in mind. Does this Bill really aim at achieving what it purports to achieve? I feel, it absolutely does not. I could have understood if the Government stated that the entire particulars of the sources of income and every thing else will be disclosed. One can understand that. If my source of income is disclosed, for instance, from my profession, somebody may say, his professional income is more. If a lump sum of assessment is mentioned, it makes no person wiser. It merely acts as a pin prick to the assessee or perhaps it may do some substantial damage to him without achieving any result. The damage that may be done is this. Suppose there is a partnership firm which has great credit, which does shroffi business and which receives deposits. Under some fortuitous circumstances, in one year, such a firm may pay a very low amount of income-tax. But, the prestige and credit it has in the market is so high that people blindly trust such a partnership firm. When the assessment of such a firm is disclosed, what happens? Suddenly, the financial credit and prestige of that firm receives a jolt. There is no justification for that. Because, when the Government disclose merely assessment that it has been assessed to so much, they do not disclose the particular circumstances in which it has been assessed so low. Therefore, it is open to a competitor in business who wants to damage the credit of another competitor, to procure from the Income-tax department disclosures of a limited character, knowing full well why the particular party has been assessed so low, and then, circulate that in the market, look here, only this much is the assessment he has paid, this man has no financial credit on which he has been trading so far.

Shri Rajendra Singh (Chapra): This is a game of capitalism.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Whatever the game might be, that is a different point. Let us take the facts.

Shri C. D. Pande: The game is played according to rules.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: The whole point I am making is that a limited disclosure, a disclosure not accompanied by the cirmustances in which the assessment is made, is likely to do more damage to the assessee than help the Government or protect the interests of the revenues. That is my main point. I could have understood if it is stated in the Bill itself that the entire statement of the world income of the assessee will be handed over to anybody. One can understand that.

There is also no provision to restrict undue publication of such information which a man obtains. It is open to him to publish a book on the disclosures he has obtained from the Income-tax department. Therefore, it is conceivable that the damage that would be done to an assessee may be far more than the assistance which the Government may secure from these disclosures. I would like to know how the Government could achieve the purpose of the Bill, namely, to prevent evasion by this method of disclosure. No connection between the two has been established. Therefore, I submit that when we are all anxious to see that there should be less tax evasion, we should not blindly rush in to do something, because it might appeal to the people at large. It may, in reality, do damage to the people without any profit to any body. I am not afraid of damaging the capitalists' interests if it is for the benefit of the public. I am not afraid of that. There is no question about it if the public gains. Here, the public does not gain; the Revenue department does not gain. As I put it, if the Government with all the machinery at their command, with all the powers of investigation, powers of opening up accounts, cannot prevent evasion of taxes, how is this little thing going to do that?

There is also a provision which says that discretion is left to the authorities. Why should discretion be left? There should be compulsion that disclosure should be made. Otherwise, we all have a suspicion that political considerations will come into play and disclosures will not be permitted to be made in the case of the party bosses in the ruling party and other bosses in the opposition parties may be held to the ridicule of the public or something may be done. Particularly at election time this type of thing will provide a lot of material for mud-slinging, from which Government may protect their own members. That is my suspicion. Otherwise, why should there be at all any discretion vested about furnishing or not furnishing the information? If the disclosure of my income is in the interests of revenue, surely the disclosure of the hon. Minister's income is equally in the interests of revenue. Why should anybody be protected? Therefore, I think that type of clause should not remain.

Shri C. D. Pande: Nobody is protected.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: I am saying power is left there. It may be used in its interests and of the ruling party.

Shri C. D. Pande: There may be some blackmailers also coming forward.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Does the Government expect that the people will, somehow or other, turn in into spies and provide the information? I say nothing of the kind will happen. Only old and private scores will be sought to be settled.

Shri C. D. Pande: No spies, but blackmailers.

Shri Ranga: Blackmailers also.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Actually, what will happen is that old scores will be settled, nothing more will be done. If you bring a Bill which will certainly prevent evasion of disclosure by affording greater information I am prepared to support it.

It is very surprising that while we are all talking about disclosure of individual incomes, we are not talking about party incomes. It will be more interesting to know how political parties get their finances and their income.

Shri Tyagi: What is the relevancy?

Shri Rajendra Singh: It does have. Why should you object to it if you are a clean man?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Therefore, while practically the whole of the Bill is acceptable including the disclosure of the names of convicted people, subject to time being given to them for appeals, I am of opinion that this Clause requires very careful reconsideration. Since the Government are going to bring forward a comprehensive Bill, I would appeal to them to withdraw this part of Clause (9) and other corresponding clauses....

Shri Ranga: Hear, hear.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: ....and bring it up in a revised form in the more comprehensive Bill when we shall consider it on its merits.

Shri Tangamani (Madurai): Then, what is the use of this Bill?

Shri Naushir Bharucha: Then, withdraw the whole of it and bring another.

Shri Jhunjhunwala (Bhagalpur): We were expecting a comprehensive Bill, based on the Tyagi Committee's Report to be brought before the House. I do not understand the necessity for this short Bill with a few Clauses at this juncture. It would have been better if a more comprehensive Bill had been brought forward and the House given an opportunity to study it from the point of view of the Tyagi Committee's Report.

The anxiety for bringing this Bill appears to be only in respect of the secrecy clause. There appears to be no urgency, for example, regarding other clauses, the Clause withdrawing rebate on transport vehicles, motors, office appliances etc., or the Clause giving exemption to some donations from income-tax, though, no doubt, persons who desire to donate would welcome it. Nor is there any urgency for the Clause giving some concessions to some industries. The hon. Minister has not told us the criteria for giving concessions to certain industries and not to others which may actually require more concession.

Now I come to the secrecy clause. While sub-sections (1) and (2) of the proposed section 59A authorise the Government to publish the names of certain persons, the proposed sub-section (4) states:

> "Notwithstanding anything contained in this section, the Central Government may refrain from publishing the name of any person if it is satisfied that in the interests of revenue it is necessary so to do, and where the Central Government refrains from publishing the name of any person, the reason for not publishing the name shall be recorded in writing."

Shri Ranga quoted the instance of a former Finance Minister who referred only certain cases to the Income-tax Investigation Commission and refrained from referring certain other cases, with the result that ultimately he had to resign. So, if such blanket power is given to the Government or Government officials, there is bound to be discrimination, may be unconsciously, but such discrimination is not proper or justified on any ground.

There is another Clause which says that on the application of anybody, the income-tax officer is bound to give the details of the returns and the tax assessed of any particular person. This will also lead to a great deal of blackmailing. Any person can file an application before the income-tax officer and get such information and then blackmail the person details of whose return he has thus obtained. This is bound to happen, and unfortunately we have so many such people in the country.

Shri M. R. Masani (Ranchi—East): You mean in the country, not in the House.

Shri Jhunjhunwala: Here or anywhere else. We all belong to the country also. I do not mean anybody sitting in Parliament.

Sir, it has been suggested that this Bill should have been referred to a Select Committee which should have sufficient time to go into the justification of all the provisions which have been put in here. So far as the secrecy clause is concerned, the Tyagi Committee has recommended that no name should be published unless it is decided by the final tribunal. Now, according to this Bill you are going to publish the name as soon as an income-tax officer has come to a decision in a particular case. What will happen to the gentleman if on appeal, or in the tribunal, it is found that what the income-tax officer had decided was entirely wrong? What justification is there, in such cases, for the publication of the names. I have not been able to follow the reason why Government was not able to accept the recommendation of the Tyagi Committee that the names should be published only after the final decision of the tribunal is announced.

Then, Sir, in regard to the principle involved in this secrecy clauses much has been said by Shri Morarka and others who have gone through its history, and the incorporation of it in the Bill was thought to be unjust. I would like to say emphatically that I am not very much enamoured of this secrecy clause, but it is essential to find out why a change in the secrecy clause has now become necessary. I do not mind the secrecy clause being changed. All the secret things of a merchant should be disclosed, if it is in the interest of the collection of the taxes or if it is of benefit to the Government and ultimately to the public. But there is one thing which I want to point out.

The Finance Minister said that the publication or disclosure of the name will act as a great deterrent. In my humble opinion it will not only not act as a great deterrent, but it will make the people thick-skinned. They will be proof against all these negative measures which you are taking or whatever may be the measures you have taken in order to collect the taxes. Instead of strengthening your own Department to realise the taxes, if you proceed in the manner in which you are contemplating, it would only make the evaders thick-skinned and they would not bother what you do. If the name of Mr. Birla is published, smaller industrialists would not mind if their names also are published. If even after the publication of the names, Mr. Birla and others continue to get all facilities from Government, what is the effect of the disclosure? In my opinion, this will not only act as a non-deterrent, but it will stand in the way of collection of taxes.

[Shri Jhunjhunwala]

Unless you put your Department in order, unless you tighten it up, such negative measures are not going to help you.

As I have already told the House, I am not enamoured of this secrecy clause. Let everything be disclosed; but let us see whether it going to produce the results which are expected of them. With great regret I have to say that it will not produce the results; on the other hand, it will have entirely different effect. We are in fact demoralising the people. We are thinking of removing corruption. But by such negative measures we are only bringing in corruption in society; we are resorting to desparate measures when we ourselves are not in a position to strengthen the Department to collect the taxes. It has been said that there has been an increase of 42 per cent. in National income. Where has all this income gone? It is your duty to find out where that income has gone and why you have not been able to realise the taxes in proportion to the increase in income.

Shri C. D. Pande: Mr. Chairman, Sir, for a long time there has been the practice that whenever there are outstanding problems facing the country, like the realisation of taxes, management of companies and regulation of business and industry, a committee is appointed; but the Bill that is brought before the House always deviates considerably from the recommendations of the Committee. I shall give only two examples: one is the Shastri Committee Report; the other is the Tyagi Committee report.

In 1956 a Bill on Company Law was drafted and enacted into law. Soon after that Bill was passed into an Act a Committee was constituted known as the Shastri Committee. The Shastri Committee after mature consideration made certain recommendations and suggested the removal of certain anomalies and points of doubt. Government brought forward a Bill, enlarging the scope of the measure and amending root and branch the whole of the Company law. A Bill was introduced in 1957 or 1958 and was referred to a Select Committee. By the time the Select Committee made its report, the entire Bill was again changed. Out of 300 clauses, almost 200 clauses have been changed.

Shri Tangamani: May I make a submission? There is a Bill now before the Select Committee and the report has not yet been submitted. Is it open to a Member to say that the Select Committee has changed 200 clauses.

Shri C. D. Pande: It is a matter of common knowledge.

Mr. Chairman: He is entitled to express that.

Shri C. D. Pande: No secret has been divulged. I only referred to the Companies Bill to prove that in this Bill also the same practice has been followed.

Shri Tyagi and his Committee made a fine and wholesome report. Of course, this Bill contains certain recommendations which are embodied in this Bill, but there are many other wholesome recommendations which have been completely ignored. The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure said in his speech that he would bring forward a comprehensive Bill in November. May I ask him why, when they intend bringing forward a comprehensive Bill, this provision regarding the secrecy clause cannot be allowed to remain on the statute-book for three months more. The Tyagi Committee had suggested that the net amount of the tax and not the amount claimed should be published. In this connection, I would like to refer to the clause relating to the amount of fine. In this Bill, a limit of Rs. 5,000 has been prescribed; in other words, if there is a fine imposed on any person which amounts to Rs. 5000, then he is supposed to be a guilty person, and his name can be published. It is not the intention of this House or the purpose of this Bill that the name of a person who pays just a fine of Rs. 5,000 should be published, and he should be ostracized. A fine of Rs. 5000 can accrue on an income-tax of Rs. 3000, because the fine is generally about 1½ times the tax. Therefore, in actual practice, if a man who is liable to pay Rs. 3000 as tax has failed to pay that amount, then he is liable to pay a fine of Rs. 5000.

Shri Braj Raj Singh (Firozabad): What is the harm in that?

Shri C. D. Pande: I shall presently point out the harm. After all, the persons who pay an income-tax of Rs. 3000 or so are not such big money-bags as have earned the spite and malice of the general public opinion of this country. They are not such big people. Even a deputy secretary is liable to pay a tax of Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000 a year on his earnings, or a joint secretary is liable to pay that amount. Certainly, that is not the amount that the hon. Minister has in view. The target that he had in mind was something else, but he has come down so low that he has sought to entangle almost everybody who is liable to pay tax. Therefore, the limit of Rs. 5000 is a very low limit. By mentioning this figure in the provision, he will be harming or troubling or vexing a larger number of people than he has in mind.

After all, who are the mischief-makers against whom we are enacting this legislation, and whom we do not want to allow to continue their old practices? They are not more than 2000 or 3000 in number. I feel that nobody who is not liable to pay a tax of more than Rs. 50,000 should be brought within the purview of this ostracism.

After all, about fine itself, there is a difference because a fine can be a culpable fine or a fine arising on account of inability to pay. Supposing I am taxed to the extent of Rs. 3000, and I am not in a position just at present to pay Rs. 3000 within the stipulated 35 days, then the incom-tax officer will come and say to me that I have been fined Rs. 5000, and I must pay that amount. That type of fine is quite different from the fine imposed on concealment. Here, it is not a case of concealment, but it is a case of inability to pay in time. Therefore, I would request the Finance Minister that he should make a distinction between culpable fine and a fine of this type, between a fine imposed on account of anti-social activities, and a fine imposed on account of inability to pay in time. If a person is found guilty, after proper investigation, after proper adjudication and after final judgment by a court of appeal, then he should have every right to ostracize him, publicise his name and bring him to public ridicule and bring him to public malignment, but not in the case of a person who is not able to pay in time either because he is busy or he did not receive the notice in time or he has no money to pay. After all, everybody who is in business and who is liable to pay a tax of Rs. 2000 or Rs. 3000 is not always in a position to pay the tax; and if he is not paying the tax, he will be fined. That type of fine stands on quite a different footing from the fine on account of concealment. Therefore, it is absolutely necessary that a distinction should be made between a fine imposed for concealment and a fine imposed on other grounds. If you bring only those cases within the purview of this Bill where the concealment has been proved beyond doubt, and the fine imposed also is not just Rs. 5000 but above Rs. 50,000, then you will catch all the money-bags; you will be catching all the cats and leaving only the rats. So, the mere word 'fine' will not cover the entire field. A fine on concealment is what Shri Tyagi had in mind, and he has himself told me also that

[Shri C. D. Pande]
what he had in mind was proved guilt.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: He has not written that in his report?

Shri C. D. Pande: He has written it in the report, and he has also strengthened it by telling me personally.

Now, I come to the clause dealing with the disclosure of information to a person who applies to the commissioner of income-tax for the same. I do not know what should be the motive of that application. Of course, people will say that the motive is public good, public interest, the interest of the exchequer etc. But, I know, as things are, nobody is so conscientious these days in the country that he is so much devoted to the State that he is going to render a service by going to the commissioner of income-tax, and pay a certain amount and get the information and then report to the commissioner that such and such an income has been concealed. All of us know that even in a murder case or a case of theft, people do not come forward for giving evidence in a court of law. When that is the case, do you think that people, all of a sudden, will become so public-minded as to come forward and spend money and take the trouble of going to the income-tax commissioner and then pursuing the case? There may be just one or two really public-spirited persons who may do so. But a large number of people that will come forward for this purpose will be motivated either by malice towards the wealthy people or by the instinct of blackmail. And this provision will then become nothing but an instrument for blackmail, and blackmail galore. By having this provision, you will be opening the flood-gates of blackmail, because the moment a person pays Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 or whatever fee is prescribed, he becomes entitled to get the information. According to some hon. Members the income-tax commissioner should not have any discretion in this matter and the disclosure of the information should be automatic on the payment of the prescribed fee. In my opinion, the commissioner must have discretion; it should not be made automatic that a person who pays just Rs. 5 or Rs. 10 and who applies for the information should automatically be given the assessment papers; that is not proper. The power of discretion should vest in the commissioner of income-tax.

Even then, I feel that there should be some provision for a scrutiny of the purpose for which the information is asked for. The purpose should be verified. Otherwise, a person may apply for the information, as Shri Naushir Bharucha has pointed out, just to run down a competitor of his. In fact, many crooks may come forward just to blackmail some wealthy persons against whom they have some malice. As we know already, there are many professional persons of this type who just purchase two or three shares in big concerns and then attend the meetings just to create trouble. Usually, no shareholder is interested in attending the meetings, but these persons are interested in attending the meetings. They go and attend the meetings of concerns such as those of Tata or Dalmia or Birla and then say, look here, I am a shareholder, I find that these things have happened, and so on; then, those persons who are in charge of the concern, either out of fear or because of many other reasons or because of the fear that there may be something wrong with them actually, at once try to gag them by some means. I may tell you that it is these persons who are more dangerous than even the men who earn such high incomes. You should not feed such persons, who are in the habit of blackmailing persons by obtaining certain information. They are not genuinely interested in it, they are not interested in it because they have the good of the country at heart, but they have only their own helf-interest at heart, and they will be pursuing these things out of vendetta or for self-gain.

Therefore, I feel that there should be a scrutiny before the papers are given to the persons who apply for it, and the fee also should not be a nominal fee. After all, when, as I have suggested, only the bigger men who earn high incomes and who are assessed high income-tax and who are liable to pay a high fine are liable to this type of process, then the fee prescribed for those who want to obtain papers concerning them should also be increased.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: Say, Rs. 1000 or Rs. 2000?

Shri C. D. Pande: It should be not less than Rs. 100. It should not be just a customary or nominal fee, so that if I pay a fee of Rs. 5 and I obtain the assessment papers of Shri M. R. Masani, I can go to him and say, look here, you have concealed your income, and thus try to get a discount of Rs. 500 from him.

Shri M. R. Masani: My hon. friend is welcome to do that.

Shri C. D. Pande: This kind of thing should not be allowed, and I appeal to the Finance Minister that he should be careful while giving out the papers to other persons and he should take into consideration the motive also. If he is really convinced that a man who has come forward has got the good of the State and the good of the public at heart, then he should be given the information free, according to me. But I may tell you that just one in hundred will come forward with that pure motive. Normally, the motive will be blackmail, swindling and terrorising either out of political animosity or out of other reasons. The State should not succumb to such things. They should always weigh the justice and the propriety of the thing. For, those who pay taxes are equally entitled to get protection at their hands, and it should not be that only the criminals should be allowed to earn money.

The Minister of Finance (Shri Morarji Desai): May I ask a question? How is it possible for anybody to blackmail another simply because he knows the tax which is paid by him? He does not know the accounts or anything of that sort, because no such thing is given to him.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: How will it help the revenue then?

Shri Morarji Desai: That is a different matter. That will be seen by us. I do not want to give an instrument for blackmail; how is anybody going to be blackmailed simply because we give some information about the tax which he is paying?

Shri M. R. Masani: I will answer that. A yellow journal can get hold of it and allege that you are suppressing income.

Shri Morarji Desai: It may allege anything. It will have to prove it.

Shri M. R. Masani: But why give a handle to the yellow Press?

Shri C. D. Pande: Before the Finance Minister came in, I was saying that there are persons who are not motivated by the public good.

Shri Morarji Desai: That happens even today.

Shri C. D. Pande: If that is so, you are entrusting people with something which may not be properly used. I do not object to the provision. I say it should be used judiciously; discretion should be given to the income-tax authorities. It should be used carefully and only persons with good motives should be allowed to have access to this information.

As I said before, this is a very far-reaching amendment. It should have

[Shri C. D. Pande]

been included in the comprehensive Bill which the hon. Minister has promised next session, and it should have been given better consideration. It might have gone to a Select Committee.

These are the important points. If you accept only these two things, I will have no objection. The fine of Rs. 5,000 should not be the limit. The amount of Rs. 5,000 leviable as a fine on an income-taxability of Rs. 3,000 is very high. People in that group of income are not to be harassed; it should be a little higher. Income-tax figures should be disclosed of persons who pay Rs. 50,000 and more. After all, you cannot give the information to Tom, Dick and Harry. Suppose a shopkeeper asks for another shopkeeper's papers just for the purpose of showing vendetta and malice. That should not be allowed. Only the papers of big dodgers and evaders should be given. It should be the aim to protect the small people from whom you will not get much but will get a lot of trouble and vexation.

Mr. Chairman: Shri Tyagi... ..

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: Let him speak after we have spoken, because he will be replying to the comments we give on his report.

Shri Tyagi (Dehra Dun): I am not dealing with that Report. I have not much to say.

Shri Harish Chandra Mathur: We may make some comments on his Report. He will be able to reply to them. He will be able to say something better.

Shri Tyagi: I am slightly upset in the House today for I was associated with that comprehensive Report on direct taxes administration which we had submitted last year. After examining more than 300—400 replies to the questionnaire and witnesses practically all over the country and after having spent a few thousands of rupees of the public exchequer, we come to certain conclusions, and if the Government have differed with them, it would be difficult for me to change my views, because whatever we have put in the Report is our fairest judgment. For considerations of party or for the fear of the whip, it is not possible for me to effect a change of my views, because after all, the first thing we must care for is our intellectual honesty. In this matter, I beg to differ with the decisions taken by the Government in this case. I should have very much preferred the Government waiting for a few more months and coming with a comprehensive Bill. I say this in spite of whatever the Minister has been kind enough to say. The Finance Minister, particularly, is my very intimate associate and I respect him so much. I can never attribute any motive to him in my life. I admire him so much.

Shri Braj Raj Singh: In future life also?

Shri Tyagi: Of course, our relations are like that. We do not change.

This question of penalty and publicity of penalty etc. was thoroughly examined. As we have already mentioned in our Report, it is not actually the penal clause alone which will save revenues from evasion. We felt it is not a sort of butcher's knife alone which will help us. I am insisting on a comprehensive Bill because then the Minister would be happier and would be well received by the assessees and the public at large; in such a comprehensive Bill, there would be so many fair amenities also. I am quite sure he is having a judicious view in the examination of the Report submitted to him. Then it would be a balanced Bill. I do not know why the Government have been intrigued into this unnecessary hurry by coming forward with just a few clauses. Perhaps the Minister might have some justification—I do not know.

But the basis on which we wanted to tackle the assessees was to inspire amongst them a sense of confidence, of faith in the efficiency of the administration. That was what we felt. In fact, the Committee was practically unanimous and in our Report we tried to be quite judicious and objective. We had examined all people from all sections and we came to the conclusion that the present state of our taxation organisation and the manner in which taxes were realised deserved a drastic change. It is not in a good state. I do not want to go into details just now, but it will be risky for the State if this department went bad. It is not only the officers alone who are concerned in the matter; it is also the morale of the assessees that is involved. We felt uppermost in our mind—all the Members were agreed on this—that the assessees had lost faith in the efficiency of the department. That was the first consideration. If the assessees knew that the department was efficient enough, to do justice, to apply the screw and know where evasion was taking place, there would be some fear in their mind which would be more deterrent than any punishment or penalty. If the assessees always knew that the department was vigilant enough to find out even a single pie of evasion—that they had the resources for that, with the law helping them—they would be afraid of committing any evasion or even avoidance.

So my fear is that as we stand today, the department has lost that old glamour and old sanction which the assessees used to associate with it. Now they know that there is no question of anybody being found out. They generally go scot-free. There has been a clause in the Income-tax Act for the last many years, a penal clause whereby an evader could be prosecuted under criminal sections and sent to jail. But the Government never applied that clause. Why? I came to know that they thought that sending a man to jail might involve a lot of litigation, perhaps the court might take a different view, they might succeed or not succeed; also it was better to have a penalty because that would bring revenue, whereas sending a person to jail would only mean a liability on Government. Therefore, they took a sort of *bania* view that it would be better to impose a bigger penalty than send a man to jail. That revenue-bias of the officers of Government in the past has practically established a convention that nobody is prosecuted criminally. Otherwise, according to the law of the land, an evader can be sent to jail. He has evaded tax; he is a swindler. He is a thief. He has cheated Government. He is worse than a cheat. But there is no prosecution. There has been a convention for sometime past that no prosecutions are launched.

Therefore, all these circumstances have conspired together to deprive Government of their efficiency or prestige over the assessees. This is a thing which has to be re-established. The department has to see that it is efficient enough to detect every pie of Government money which has been evaded.

15 hrs.

There must be a sense of justice. I mean the assessees must have a faith that the department will do justice. That is one thing which is now waning. Today the efficiency of the officers is generally assessed by the amount they assess. So, the efficiency of an officer depends upon mostly the amount he assesses and, therefore, he assesses more and more to be efficient because he wants his assessment to be made in the confidential records. So, he assesses more and the assessee thinks that whatever returns he makes the officer will charge more and so he shows his income less and less. He knows it will be ultimately added to by the Income-tax Officer. This is the general pattern of relationship that exists between the assessor and the assessee. There is no confidence in each other. The assessees cannot trust the Income-tax officer.

Mr. Chairman: Now, it is 3 o'clock. We have to take up other business.

[Mr. Chairman]
The hon. Member may continue next day.

Shri Supakar: Sir, before you go over to the next item, may I request Government through you to consider the desirability of having a Select Committee on the Bill......

Mr. Chairman: Order, order. There is no motion. If he was so minded, the hon. Member could have sent notice of a motion to that effect. Now, there is no motion.

15.02 hrs.

MOTION *RE*: REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY

Shri D. C. Sharma (Gurdaspur): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I rise to speak on the subject with a sense of diffidence, but all the same I speak about it with a sense of ineffable pride in the achievement of the Atomic Energy Establishment whose report we are discussing this afternoon. When I think of this I take the view that the past and the present are not sometimes in very happy harmony; and that this is so also in a combination of what was and what is. But when I think of Trombay, where the Atomic Energy Commission is having its establishment. I think of it with a sense of the historic past, the historic present and more than the historic past and the historic present, the historic future.

By means of this establishment, my country has projected itself into the future without ignoring the present. We have had all kinds of power in this world, muscular power, mechanical power, thermal power, hydel power, electric power. But I believe that as years roll by nuclear power will be a reality. It may not be a matter of only research and investigation; but it may be a usable commodity. Therefore, Trombay is a symbol not only of the nuclear age through which we are passing but also of the age of nuclear power into which we are bound to go. It is true that people have tried to calculate the economics of nuclear power, and they have come to the conclusion that nuclear power as compared with thermal and hydel power is going to be more expensive. There are some students who have said that nuclear power may compare very favourably with other kinds of power in the coming years. These calculations are made by the representatives of those countries which are very advanced scientifically and industrially.

We do not belong to that type of country. But still, the great scientist of international reputation, who has won laurels for our country wherever he has gone, has calculated the economics of nuclear power in an underdeveloped country; and he has come to the conclusion that when coalfields lie at a great distance from a State and when other things are far away, nuclear power might, one day, be cheaper than other kinds of power. At least I live in the hope that nuclear power will be something that a common man will be able to use some day as he uses electric power today or any other kind of power.

But I find some kind of danger when I use the word 'power'. The word 'power' makes me slightly afraid. It has a formidable connotation for me. But I may submit very respectfully that this Atomic Energy Establishment at Trombay is pursuing a path which is in keeping with the avowed, declared and oft-repeated policy of my country, the policy that we are not going to use this nuclear power any day for destructive purposes. We do not belong to that nuclear club and we do not have any desire to belong to that kind of nuclear club which believes in tests here and there, which believes in having nuclear weapons and all that kind of thing. At least I do not have any desire to be a member or even an associate of that kind of club. Our club is a different kind of club; it is the Atoms for Peace club. And I am very happy that it is the avowed policy of my country to make use of this, perhaps, the biggest of inventions of humanity, perhaps, the most far-reaching invention the human brain has made, to promote the welfare of my country and of mankind and not for assisting, in any way, directly or indirectly, in the destruction of humanity. Therefore, when I think of the Atomic Energy Establishment, I think of it as a garden where healing herbs grow. I do not interpret it as a garden where poisonous weeds grow.

Trombay is not a simple thing; it is a big complex, a huge complex. So, I look upon Trombay as a university which has training courses for junior assistants and senior assistants. It has a refresher course for those persons who want to use radio isotopes. It calls together other types of persons. Looked at from that point of view, I would be very well justified in calling it a university. When I look at the research programme, I think it is a programme which will do credit to any university not only in this country but in any other country of the world. There are all kinds of subjects dealt with and there is hardly any science subject which is not within the purview of this programme: physics, chemistry, engineering, metallurgy, biology, etc. All these things are there. So, it is also a big research centre. It is also an industrial establishment; it undertakes surveys and it tries to go about prospecting for materials which are useful for this kind of thing. Therefore, I am perfectly justified in saying that it is very dangerous to equate the Atomic Energy Establishment at Trombay with any one thing. It is a manufacturing concern, an industrial concern, a survey concern, a centre of learning and a centre of research. It is all that.

I am very happy that one of its great advantages is that it is self-sufficient and as time passes I am sure that this self-sufficiency will increase in the matter of fabrications and things which are needed there. But I feel that it would do very well in having more close collaboration with the Universities of India and with the scientific associations of India. I know a beginning has been made in that direction but it is not enough. There should be more co-operation and collaboration between the scientists working in this establishment and the professors of science all over the country. I find that kind of collaboration is not available in as high a degree as it should be. After all nuclear science has to be made a part of the national consciousness and thinking. This cannot be done unless all the seats of learning and the persons who are engaged there are brought in in an ever-increasing measure. This is an establishment of its own kind and it has no parallel in this country. It has got to take in hand the dissemination of information and the diffusion of knowledge to a much larger extent than is done by other and similar scientific organisations. I know they have a skeleton kind of scientific information apparatus but I would suggest that this should be enlarged and it should become a medium not only for instructing those who are already well-versed in science or proficient in this type ot knowledge but also for those who are not very much in touch with these developments.

15.15 hrs.

[SHRI MULCHAND DUBE *in the Chair*]

I have to congratulate the Atomic Energy Commission because of the Canada-India reactor which has become critical for it is now in operation. I was reading a report of the Atomic Energy Establishment of Great Britain and I am happy to say that we have three reactors at present: Zerlina, Apsara and I.C.R. Our achievement in this field is not very insignificant for in the course of a few years we have been able to build up these reactors and I feel that these reactors are going to be rehearsals of similar other reactors in our country. I do not know but I think Great Britain has eight reactors and if we have today three, it is not a record which is in any way discreditable. This reactor is going to be a research tool of great possibility and its advantages are going to be felt in the physical, chemical, engineering, metallurgical and biological fields. But more than all this, I feel that this reactor is going to be useful so far as our agriculture is concerned. Agriculture is the main industry of India and anything that promotes our agriculture is welcome. We have already started a garden—Pusa Research Institute—where experiments on crop mutation are being conducted and these experiments are being conducted with all those things which are the staple of our agricultural production. I also find that an atomic garden will be set up in Trombay and I hope that similar gardens will be set up all over the country so that research in agriculture can proceed and we can discover new ways of resisting diseases.

I also feel very happy that radio isotopes are doing a great deal of good to the medical profession for radio therapy is going to be one of the most acknowledged forms of therapy in the world of today and I am glad that we have made a beginning in that direction. I find that the Atomic Energy Establishment of Great Britain sold some radio isotopes.

Shri M. C. Jain (Kaithal): There is noise in the Press Gallery and it is being heard in the House. There is thus a double voice in the House because of noise in the Press Gallery.

Shri D. C. Sharma: At least I am not conscious of that.

I was saying that so far as agriculture goes, so far as medicine goes it is a very happy news. I am also very happy that we are giving due warnings to our countrymen so far as radiation hazards are concerned, and our Atomic Energy Department has been very much awake in this matter. Besides the several centres that are already there, they have 38 sampling stations including one in Sikkim. All this goes to the credit of the Atomic Energy Department.

But now the problem is the problem of generation of atomic power. I hope that this problem will be considered with due reference to its economics and also to its future. Of course, many States in India are vying with each other for the location of the atomic power station. We have taken a decision, I believe, that there will be an atomic power station in Maharashtra. It is also in the air that Rajasthan will have an atomic power station. Madhya Pradesh also wanted an atomic power station. I think there will be requests from other States also for atomic power station. Therefore, I believe that in the Third Five Year Plan the allocation for the Atomic Energy Establishment should be quadrupled.

I believe that the work that this Atomic Energy Department is doing is bringing us good not only in our own country but it is also winning us renown and laurels in the outside world. Besides other things, this is one of those things which bring us in touch with the scientifically most advanced parts of the world like the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R. and other countries. It is also a place to which many persons from foreign countries come for training. Therefore, I believe that the Atomic Energy Establishment should not now be looked upon as a child, it should not be now looked upon as a growing boy, but it should be now looked upon as an adult because it has attained full maturity. It should not only be given subventions, given money for doing its normal duties of research, application and other things, but it should also be given money for giving this country a network of atomic power stations. When I say this, I say this in the hope that the atomic power in my country will remain always a power for the good of mankind. I have no doubt that it will be like that.

I also hope that my country will raise its voice at the international organisations, as it was raised last time, against the artificial division of countries into two: the "atomic haves" and the "atomic have-nots", and we shall see to it that those countries which may be described as "atomic have-nots" do not suffer from any disabilities, safeguards and other things from the countries which are atomically advanced. I think that was the point of view which was expressed by Dr. Bhabha. I am very happy that he did so. I hope he will continue to take as much interest in those countries which are underdeveloped from this point of view as he has been doing.

With all this, Sir, I believe that this Atomic Energy Department deserves to be better known. It has not become as much a part of India's thinking as some other things have been. For example, Sir, there is the Bhakra Nangal of which we are proud and which I have had the honour to represent in this House last time. It is very well known not only in this country but also outside. But our Atomic Energy Establishment is not so well known in this country. I find that laymen in other countries also do not know much about it. Therefore, Sir, I want that this should be better known because, after all, it does not represent only some scientific achivement, it does not represent only some kind of scientific advancement, but it also represents the ideals for which India stands, the ideals of human welfare, the ideals of a world which is free from the dangers of nuclear warfare. Therefore, I welcome this Atomic Energy Establishment because it combines realism with idealism and that is what India stands for.

Mr. Chairman: Motion moved:

"That this House takes note of the Report of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1959-60, laid on the Table of the House on the 18th April, 1960."

Before we proceed with the debate I would like to fix a time limit for hon. Members. Will ten minutes for each hon. Member do?

Shri Naushir Bharucha (East Khandesh): It is a vast subject.

Mr. Chairman: The time available is only two hours for this vast subject. I think the hon. Minister will take 30 minutes.

The Prime Minister and Minister of External Affairs (Shri Jawaharlal Nehru): May be 20 minutes.

Mr. Chairman: May I know how many hon. Members would like to participate in this debate?

Some Hon. Members *rose*—

Mr. Chairman: I find that there are about nine hon. Members who would like to participate in this debate. I think ten minutes would be sufficient.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: That would not be enough.

Mr. Chairman: We can relax it if necessary by two or three minutes in the case of important speakers. Shri H. N. Mukerjee—

Shri H. N. Mukerjee (Calcutta—Central): Mr. Chairman, Sir, I speak on this subject with trepidation and in great humility because I am very illiterate in regard to atomic energy, but I have had the advantage of having been sought to be assiduously educated by the Department of Atomic Energy which has sent us a good deal of important material.

Atomic energy, it goes without saying, is a symbol of the predominating role of science in modern life. It has made possible the most frightfully destructive weapons, but surely more impressive is its potentiality for

[Shri H. N. Mukerjee]

peaceful construction. Whether we like it or not, the destiny of man today has been linked to that of science, and if insanity does not overtake us science will lead us on to peace and to the happiness which, perhaps, after so much travail mankind has come to deserve.

15.30 hrs.

[MR. SPEAKER *in the Chair*]

I wish, in the beginning, to pay a tribute of appreciation to the work which is being done by our atomic scientists, and particularly by Dr. Bhabha. He has brought to his intellectual quality a certain dynamism and a gift of imagination. When he presided over the first international conference on the peaceful use of atomic energy in 1956, he gave a remarkable address and he hazarded a prediction that ways of controlling the liberation of fusion energy to make it industrially usable on a large scale would be found in less than two decades. The progress towards the taming of the fusion energy of elements like deuterium, of which, we are told, there are inexhaustible reserves in ordinary water, is a wonderful thing. I discover from the literature given to us that there are some misgivings still in the minds of experts regarding the pace of the progress which is likely to be achieved, but the perspective is no doubt fascinating.

We are surely proud of our *Apsara*, the reactor which was entirely designed and commissioned by Indian scientists and engineers. The Canada-India reactor, though it was designed by Canada, was erected by our own personnel. The third reactor, which is going to be put up very soon, is also entirely the work of our own scientists. I find Dr. Bhabha has insisted, in a very well reasoned manner, on the need for atomic energy in under-developed countries. He has shown, with reference to statistics, how in a country like ours, it is very necessary for us to go ahead, as far as we can, with atomic organisation.

I notice also, however, that at the second international conference, which was held in 1958, certain misgivings were expressed by rather important people like Sir John Cockcroft, who, as far as I know, is a leading atom scientist in Great Britain. He as well as the Chairman of the Conference, Professor Perrin have, for whatever reason, tried to say that it will be hard for nuclear power to compete with diesel power and other kinds of conventional power, which are available to us, specially in the under-developed countries.

Sir John Cockcroft had said:

> "It should be remembered that technicians are scarcer than graduates in many countries and they are crucial to development. I agree with our President, Professor Perrin, that nuclear power will not perform miracles in under-developed countries."

I might be a very suspicious sort of person, but I detect a kind of allergy in these people to the possible development of atomic energy in an under-developed country like ours. But when these questions are raised about the shortage of expert personnel, it is necessary that we get some material as to how we are going to tackle it.

I find from the draft outline of the Plan that the atomic energy establishment today has a staff of about 1200 graduate scientists and engineers and the number is expected to increase to about 2,000 in the course of the third Five Year Plan. There is also the programme of training, which is going to be extended. But I should like very much to know what progress is being achieved. I should like to know, for instance, how institutions like the Meghnad Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics in Calcutta are making their contribution and how similar institutes might be set up perhaps with money from the

Planning Commission's funds in different universities. As I said earlier, I am quite illiterate in regard to these matters, but I do hope that efforts are being made on a large enough scale to supply personnel which are necessary in order to conduct the work of our atomic energy organisation.

In regard to the cost of fuel, Dr. Bhabha has given us very detailed information and he has shown that from the standpoint of national economy, if everything is taken into consideration—transport costs and so on and so forth—the total cost of a thermal power station is not much less than that of a nuclear one. This is quite important. As a matter of fact, I discover at the same time also certain criticisms in regard to perhaps a certain amount of extravagance which we might be showing in this regard. I have found an observation in the *Economic Weekly* in a special article which suggests:

> "It might be good to have atomic energy in 20 years or even in 10 years; but it is little reason to buy uneconomical plants from the U.K. or the U.S.A. now."

Then the writer goes on to say:

> "Later on maybe it would be much cheaper for India if India waits. She might get comparatively free benefits from the immense investment which has been poured into nuclear physics and engineering in the U.S.A., U.K. and such other countries."

I do not suggest we should wait. On the contrary, my personal feeling is that we shall go ahead. But let us be sure that we are in a position to answer those critics who say that we are perhaps going in for very large-scale investment and if we wait for a shirt while, we may be able to take advantage of the investment in nuclear physics and engineering which is being made on a very large scale in U.S.A., U.K. and perhaps also in the Soviet Union, which in its own way might help us. As far as I am concerned, from whatever I have been able to find out, I do wish that we continue with our programme as quickly as ever that is possible.

I wish also that there are plans for the setting up of other nuclear stations. We have been informed that there is the idea now being discussed with the Planning Commission regarding smaller size atomic power stations in States like Rajasthan. This would be based on enriched uranium, which we have to import. But the idea is, as far as I have been able to make out, that these can be made to work pretty soon and in areas like Rajasthan, where the present demand for power may not be very high, it might be performing a very useful function, because we are expecting petty soon a development in the demand of our people for power.

I notice also a certain criticism in regard to the idea of putting up these atomic power stations in Rajasthan and that refers the need not merely of setting up power stations, but also making arrangements for distributing the power which is generated. Very often it has happened for conventional power purposes, we have had power generation, but the transmission arrangements have been very unsatisfactory. I do hope that as far as these smaller size atomic power stations are concerned, the arrangements in regard to transmission would follow as quickly as ever they can.

We have been told that the Government is going to set up a first stage reactor to reach about 1000 megawatt and by 1964-65, we might have this atomic power station working somewhere between Bombay and Ahmedabad. It is the intention of the Atomic Energy Commission to augment this figure as quickly as possible to about 1000 megawatt, which would enable our country to embark on the later stage of reactors. This is important because, in the later stage of reactors,

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we might exploit for power generation our vast resources of thorium. I should like to know from the Prime Minister what is being done in order to maximise the advantage we can have and as quickly as possible the advantage we have on account of the possession of very large resources of thorium.

I discover that a good deal of good work has been done in regard to the intensification of exploration for atomic minerals and it is a good thing that the geological survey, the Bureau of Mines and similar organisations are co-operating with the atomic minerals division. I discover also that attempts are being made to encourage people, not only academic people but also others, with some kind of elementary tuition in the matter, to investigate deposits. I would very much like to know what special efforts are being made to enlist the interest of the people in this country for investigation of deposits. Quite some years ago, I read about the Chinese university students going on special expeditions, and being particularly enthused with the idea of discovering some new fresh minerals in their country, I know that we cannot take a leap in the dark or that sort of thing. We do want to have scientific tuition. But I do wish that our people get whatever encouragement and assistance is necessary in order that they might assist in the task of the investigation of deposits.

There are certain questions also of general interest, to which I wish to have some answer in the course of this debate. I do not quite know what will happen and what exactly we are to expect in the near future in regard to the results of the application to agriculture and plants of our knowledge of atomic science. How far are we to expect successful medical use of radio isotopes which, I read in one of those Reports, can be of benefit to every country irrespective of their degree of industrialisation? If for purposes of medical treatment we can have atomic science at our disposal, surely that would be a very good thing and I would very much like to know what tangible progress has been made so far on successful medical use of radio isotopes. I would also like to know what has taken place so far towards the industrial utilisation of radio isotopes. I read in one of the pamphlets given to us that in the chemistry of plastics and in food sterilization and food preservation a great deal of benefit might accrue by the industrial utilisation of radio isotopes and so I would like to know what is being done in this regard, particularly in regard to food preservation.

There is also another question about which sometimes this House has expressed its concern, and that is the protection of the workers who are in our atomic energy establishments, and the people who live nearabout, against the effects of radiation. I think perhaps our country can take the initiative and ask for an international regulation of the disposal of the radio-active waste in rivers, seas or the atmosphere. I take it this question was raised in the international conference for peaceful uses of atomic energy but now that this question of atomic energy utilisation is a world-wide one, not only for purposes of destruction but also for purposes of construction it is very important that something is done to make sure that there is very careful regulation of the disposal of radio-active waste.

There is one other matter to which I would like to make a reference, and that is the work of our Cosmic Research Laboratory at Gulmarg. I would very much like to know what tangible work, work which has secured the appreciation of scientists from the point of view of theory as well as practice, has accrued so far from investigations in regard to cosmic rays in our laboratory at Gulmarg.

I am very happy that this House has an opportunity of discussing this work of the Atomic Energy Department. In spite of the backlog of problems which we have had to carry, somehow we got over them and we are going ahead with this task which is of the prime importance in the scheme of things in the world today. I am very happy that after all we have had three reactors set up—the third will be ready very soon—and in the Bombay-Ahmedabad route we are going to have another reactor in 1964-65. I do hope also that if there is any real warrant in the demand of other regions for smaller scale atomic stations in localities like Rajasthan that question would be very sympathetically examined by Government and steps would be taken towards that end.

Shri Narasimhan (Krishnagiri): The report which we are discussing today contains 76 pages of rich scientific material. While quite a few hon. Members of this House may not be able to follow what they really mean, they do indicate the great achievements which have been reached and the lot of deep research work that is being done. It is very gratifying to note that the Atomic Energy Commission which was set up in 1958 with full administrative and financial powers and with the requisite degree of autonomy and flexibility for planning and executing the country's atomic energy programme have utilized all these powers as expected to conduct the programme with efficiency, economy and speed. Everything has been accomplished, not only accomplished but accomplished practically to schedule. The India-Canada Reactor is in operation, as was visualized, practically according to time. I hope that Zerlina will also go into operation in a couple of months' time. It is also pleasing to note the amount of investigation work the Department have done in the port of Bombay. I hope the proposed work in Madras port also will be of great help.

In the field of biology and medical work also a lot of good work has been done. More work has to be done in this field because of the fear of spreading of radiation. With the new diseases that this very research is bringing about I do hope that some cures will also be found for these radiation diseases. We have achieved so much in this sphere that it is quite natural to expect our own scientists to achieve some miracles in this respect also. There is no limit to what man's mind can achieve. Therefore, when they have found the causes for some troubles it is natural to expect them to find out the remedies also, and I do hope the scientists of this country will address themselves to this task and will not be found wanting in facing this.

In the matter of marine contamination, contamination of not only botanical things under the waters but also fish and other living beings their contamination with strontium should also be fully investigated—the extent of such contamination on coastal waters and so on.

There was a proposal some time back to give to the universities some small reactors. I now find that this proposal has gone into the background. I would like the Atomic Energy Commission and the department to see whether these small reactors can be presented or given to some of these universities so that independent research can go on in those universities also. There are a number of institutions which can undertake such a task. There is, for instance, the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, where there are so many eminent scientists. They can also do some research work and any opportunity given to them, I am sure, will be fully utilized by them.

The question of new atomic stations is slightly controversial because so many claims are made. A number of States want the power stations in their own State. My own State, Madras, is very eager to have an atomic power station. We are very glad that a trial power station is going to be put up in Gujerat State. The Prime Minister did explain that he wanted the optimum condition for the first station. We do appreciate that. But I do hope that when the time comes for the establishment of more stations the claims of Madras will also be considered. The peculiar problem of Madras State is

[Shri Narasimhan]

that all its rivers are non-perennial and even this year the Mettur dam has no water. Many of the smaller dams constructed on small rivers also are not full. They are practically empty and great anxiety is felt about the continued distribution of power. This is in spite of our having utilized all our rivers. 98 per cent. of the water of Cauvery is being utilized for irrigation and power. Today the President is going to open works on a new turbine in Mettur for using the waters normally given for distribution. Even the normal water that is let for irrigation is now being attempted to be diverted for power production. We are doing our best and still we have no other water left. If more power is to be generated that can only be either from lignite or from atomic energy. Therefore, if more stations are set up for purposes of having more power through atomic energy, I do hope the genuine claims of Madras State will be fully conceded.

Shri Jaganatha Rao (Koraput): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I thank my hon. friend, Professor Sharma, for bringing this motion because it has given an opportunity to the House to have a discussion about the activities of the Atomic Energy Commission. The atomic energy programme has made significant progress since its inception about five years ago. The Atomic Energy Commissions in countries like the United States, Russia or the United Kingdom are primarily concerned with the production of electrical power, isotopes and material for nuclear weapons. We are not concerned with the production of material for nuclear weapons because we do not believe in the production and use of nuclear weapons. Our atomic energy programme is mainly confined to and concentrated upon the production of power and isotope development. These two branches are receiving the attention of the Atomic Energy Commission at Bombay.

It is a matter of pride for us that the first reactor, Apsara, was designed and built completely by Indian technicians. Outside Russia it is the first reactor which came into production. As a by-product isotopes are being produced which are being applied to medical and biological work. The uses are still in the experimental stage and I hope that in the near future the Atomic Energy Commission will be able to utilise these isotopes for the beneficial treatment of mankind.

Recently, I think in April last, Dr. Bhabha initiated a training course in the medical uses of radiation. In Delhi the Pusa Agricultural Institute has started a gamma garden for utilising atomic energy for agricultural crops. Some agricultural crops are being raised to be treated by radiation to derive desirable results such as colour change and disease resistance.

Apart from these uses, the primary use of atomic power is very important. Power has a very vital role in a nation's economy. Our country's resources of conventional power like hydro-electricity and coal would soon prove to be inadequate and will have to be supplemented by atomic power. India has the largest sources of thorium resources in the world. The installation of nuclear power stations now is necessary in the wider interests of our country. It is not merely a question of economics for nuclear power but it is a more vital one of safeguarding our future power supplies. The cost of nuclear power stations, we are told by Dr. Bhabha some time ago, is not higher than the cost of any hydel power station because in India we find the rainfall is seasonal and water has to be stored in big reservoirs which means huge cost. Secondly, the installed capacity is much higher than the capacity that could be utilised. Not more than 60 per cent. of the installed capacity is being utilised in the country. Take for instance the power house in Bhakra or at Kundah Project in Madras. The other day I was reading in a paper the report of the working group on power of Madras Government wherein they said that in the years of drought, in years 1953, 1955, 1956 and 1957, 75 per cent. of the power had to be cut in the month of June.

Shri Narasimhan: We are facing a similar situation now.

Shri Jaganatha Rao: I do not know the present situation.

In several regions which are remotely situated from coalfields and where hydel power is inadequate nuclear power stations have to be located. In cities like Delhi, Bombay and Madras where there are inter-communication grids, there is also a possibility of having nuclear power stations in the near future.

I am glad the Government are considering the location of a power station at a suitable place between Bombay and Ahmedabad and also a smaller one somewhere in Rajasthan. This would remove the need for power in future.

As I said earlier, it is not merely a question of economics but it is a question of how to supplement the power needs of the country. Recently we were circulated a paper which contained the Presidential address by Viscount Chandos, Chairman of Associated Electrical Industries, wherein he observed—I quote:

> "It will keep Great Britain in the forefront of the development of this new source of energy; secondly, it will supplement, during the next 20 years, our sources of power; and thirdly, it should, within a relatively short time, mean that the supplementary power will cost us less than that derived from domestic coal or imported oil."

It is assuring to read that it is cheaper than hydel or thermal power that we have been producing in our country. In future we should try to have these atomic power stations wherever they are suitable.

I am glad that India has again been designated to the International Atomic Energy Agency for the third year. I must congratulate Dr. Bhabha and the band of youngmen who are working under him for the wonderful work that they have been doing in this field. I am sure that India would attain a place of honour in this field, that is, in the uses of atomic power for peaceful purposes.

Our foreign policy has received the praise of the whole world. In the field of uses of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, I am sure that with the guidance of Dr. Bhabha and the band of youngmen under him India will occupy a significant place in the world.

In this connection I have also to refer to the remarks made by a Danish scientist Prof. Neils Bohr when he visited our Atomic Pavilion in the World Agricultural Fair in October last. He was very much impressed by the work done by our scientists. He said that India has occupied a high place in this field and that—

> "India should be very proud of her atomic scientists whose works are already attracting international attention."

I hope that we will be able in the near future to utilise atomic power for peaceful purposes for the benefit of mankind.

Mr. Speaker: Shri Kalika Singh. I will call Shri Bharucha in the end.

Shri Kalika Singh (Azamgarh): Sir, the first impact of atomic power was felt in August, 1945, when Nagasaki and Hiroshima were bombed and more than a lakh of persons died. India got her freedom just two years after that and two months before that India had signed the United Nations Charter at Lake Success.

[Shri Kalika Singh]

In the beginning atomic energy was not well received in the world because it was considered to be so dangerous that it could even finish the world for ever. Therefore it was for India with its policy of peace and *ahimsa* to convert that atomic energy which was destructive so far into a programme of peace.

Dr. H. J. Bhabha has said that India was even ahead of China in atomic science and that India has nearly reached the stage of development of the U.K. and France in the field of nuclear energy. But it was only because India was not following the programme of destruction of the world and was following a peace programme that it was not producing that bomb which is publicized by other powerful countries.

16 hrs.

France very lately exploded a bomb in Sahara and we read the news in the newspapers that President De Gaulle jumped with joy that France also had been able to explode a bomb in Sahara. But that explosion of the bomb in Sahara was felt by all the people inhabiting Africa just the other way: they did not welcome that bomb, but they took that bomb as a bomb of destruction of the whole of Africa by the European powers.

Therefore, now it was left to India to show to the whole world that this atomic energy counld be utilised for peaceful purposes. India is the most backward country today. The *per capita* income in India is about Rs. 290 which is less than that of many of the African countries which have not yet become independent. Many of our neighbouring countries like Ceylon, Thailand and Burma have got a higher *per capita* income than India. Therefore for India which is most backward today, some impact of power just as big as this atom only could solve the problem of Indian poverty.

It was some time back that Dr. H. J. Bhabha calculated that the coal reserves in India amounted to 40,000 million tons which was exhaustible. He also calculated that the hydro-electric potential was between 35 and 45 million kilowatts. The oil reserves are also not much. Therefore, all these three sources of energy were exhaustible and it was calculated that after twenty-five years from now India will require 50 million kilowatts of power to get along with its development programme. Since coal, hydro-electric and oil, all these sources of energy will not do for this purpose, atomic power was the only solution and that was the only source on which India could depend for its future development programme if it was to keep pace with the progress of the world.

Now, with that programme, the first atomic power station that is designed to be built is between Bombay and Ahmedabad. The second atomic power station has been designed to be built somewhere between Delhi and Bhakra. An other atomic power stations also are being proposed by various States. Even Uttar Pradesh—about which Dr. H. J. Bhabha had not proposed anything because he thought that Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh and Bihar were near to the coal pits or coal regions and therefore the power obtained from atomic energy will not be very cheap for them—even the Chairman, Electricity Board of Uttar Pradesh has proposed that one atomic power station should be included in the Third Five Year Plan for Uttar Pradesh also. So there is now a demand for atomic power stations from all the States. It shows therefore that after some time India will have many atomic power stations.

Dr. H. J. Bhabha had calculated that the estimated cost of power from atomic reactors is about Rs. 0.044 per killowatt hour which compares with the estimated cost of thermal power of Rs. 0.047 per kilowatt hour in Delhi, Bombay and Ahmedabad. In Delhi, Bombay and Ahmedabad where coal has to be transported at some cost, the power produced by atomic power station and the power produced by the conventional thermal power station would be just nearly equal, and therefore it was an economically feasible and sound proposition to have atomic power stations at Bombay, Ahmedabad and Delhi which are at a distance from the coal regions. Therefore, we are now going to have so many atomic power stations and it might be that after ten or fifteen years we might have five or six atomic power stations with 300,000 kilowatt power each, giving us energy for our industry and other establishments.

So far as our atomic energy establishment at Trombay is concerned, as has already been pointed out by the previous speakers, we have first of all the Apsara, secondly the Canada-India reactor and thirdly ZERLINA. The Apsara reactor has been working for three years, the Canada-India reactor will start working from March 1961, and ZERLINA will start working from September 1961. It has been said that "with the full operation of the Canada-India reactor during the current year, the Commission will possess one of the largest isotope producers in the world and will be in a position not only to meet the country's entire needs in radio-isotopes but to export them, if necessary". It is also proposed to encourage greater use of radio-isotopes in agriculture, biology, industry and medicine all over the country. Therefore, now these radio-isotopes are going to be used to improve our agriculture, biology, industry, medicine and all sectors of our Five Year Plan, so that India may have a full development programme in future.

Shri Viswanatha Reddy (Rajampet): Mr. Speaker, the opportunity to discuss this very important and absorbing subject has come at a very appropriate moment, because we are at present thinking in terms of finalising our Third Five Year Plan and we have to make very important decisions regarding this atomic energy programme.

During the few years that the programme has been in operation in our country I must say that the Atomic Energy Department and the Atomic Energy Commission have done a very useful work. It has been appreciated all over the world. I must say that there is a little bit of original work also being done under the auspices of this Commission. In the functioning of this Commission we are confronted with some limitations which are not present in other countries. In our country we cannot obtain from commercial sources a number of instruments, very small instruments, nor can we fabricate some of the minor factories or design the buildings through commercial sources. All this work has to be performed by the scientists of the Atomic Energy Commission. Therefore, in the initial stages, this has been a handicap. But, in the long run, I am sure, this will be an advantage for the Commission itself, because, a sort of expertise will be acquired by all the various scientists employed in the Atomic Energy Commission. Therefore, I join all my friends in congratulating the officers, particularly Dr. Bhabha, who is largely responsible for expanding this Department and giving it a very great status in the international field.

Within the short time that is available to me, I wanted to refer to only two aspects of the functioning of this Department. One is Atomic Energy Minerals Division of this Commission. It has been suggested, after very deep consideration, I am sure, by our scientific advisers that in the future years to come, we need a large quantity of uranium and thorium for the purpose of developing atomic energy in this country. The pattern of development of atomic energy in this country has been laid down in a particular direction, according to which we would need a large quantity of uranium and thorium. As far as thorium is concerned, we are in a very commanding position, that is, throium deposits in our country are

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probably the largest in the world and we need not worry on that score. However, with regard to uranium, we have made a beginning and the report tells us that at least for the first atomic power station that we are contemplating, we have got uranium stock-pile. What is to happen after that is not known. I am sure the future will take care of itself, because we cannot today plan for all the contingencies that might arise after 10 or 15 years. That is right. I understand that. But, I am afraid, the work of trying to discover uranium deposits in this country is entirely confined to the Minerals Division of the Atomic Energy Commission. As has been suggested by Shri H. N. Mukerjee, this aspect of the programme should be undertaken not only by this Department itself, but by the various scientific institutions in this country, by the Universities and if possible, even by laymen. We must have an army of amateur prospectors with probably a large number of scientillators and geiger counters with them, who will try to locate uranium deposits. As it is, I think, very few people know even the physical characteristics of uranium pitch blend or any other uranium ore. Our officers of the Forest Department, for instance, do tour quite a lot in the forests. It is quite practicable to place at their disposal a few scientillators and geiger counters and train them to find out deposits wherever they occur. I do not think we have made any attempt in this direction so far. Even such of those deposits that have been discovered have been rather providential discoveries than a systematic attempt at this discovery. Therefore, I would suggest that we should try to initiate a programme in which we would be making great efforts towards the discovery of uranium ore. Because, the pattern of our development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes entirely depends on the availability of uranium in our country.

Then, I wanted to refer to the power station that is proposed to be set up. I find from a perusal of the Third Five Year Plan, a draft of which has been supplied to us, that during the Third Plan only a prototype power reactor is to be set up. It is said that the construction of this prototype reactor is expected to be completed during the Third Plan so that the next step may be taken to design the construction of large nuclear power stations of Indian design and fabrication. This prototype reactor is to produce 15 megawatts of power. After this experimentation, we are to embark on a regular programme of erecting power stations in this country. This being what it is, I am really not able to make out another statement in this very book where it says that the Third Plan at present provides for the installation of 300,000 kw of nuclear power and further proposals of the Atomic Energy Commission for expansion of nuclear energy are under consideration. Therefore, it has to be clarified now whether it is proposed to erect merely a prototype power station during the Third Plan or a full-fledged power station during the Third Five Year Plan.

There is also another aspect of this power station which I would like to bring to the notice of the House. I am sure our scientific advisers would have considered the various aspects of this matter very carefully and come to the conclusion by which we are told that naturally-occurring uranium is to be used as fuel in our reactors in future, that is, in the first stage before we reach the ultimate stage of using uranium and thorium as the main fuel in our reactors for the purpose of producing power. Here is an abstract of an article from a pamphlet written by one Mr. Fenning. The title of this pamphlet is *Reactor Fuel Cycles and Neutron Economy*. He says in this extract:

> "Careful conservation of neutrons produced has been a vital factor since design of reactors began. The reason for such eco-

> nomy of neutrons was that the only naturally occurring fissible material was U-235 which was accompanied by 140 times as much U-238. Most of the neutrons produced in fission were lost in U-238."

If we use naturally-occurring uranium as against activated or energised uranium as they call it, we lose a lot of energy because of the absorption of neutrons. This is a view that has been expressed and I think it had been accepted by international agencies. We are embarking on a programme in which we are proposing to use naturally-occurring fissionable uranium-235 which according to this scientist results in a lot of loss of energy. I am sure, our scientists would have considered all these factors and come to that decision. But, it is helpful to remind ourselves of the various pitfalls involved in this programme.

Lastly, I would like to refer to another aspect of this matter. It has been a great pride for all of us as Indians that Dr. Bhabha representing our country in one of the International Conferences on atomic energy has suggested years back the possibility or necessity of trying to experiment on controlled fusion. Controlled fusion as against controlled fission has reached a very high degree of perfection. It has almost passed the stage of experimentation and it has come to the actual stage of utilisation in other countries, particularly in the U.S.A. I am sure our scientists one of these days would discover the trigger which should place us in a position to utilise this fusion for production of atomic energy. If we can produce atomic energy fusion, I am told by a scientist,—I am myself a layman, I can't understand this—that the energy which is produced would be much cheaper than any other conventional energy that is available today. Here is *Atomic News Digest* of November, 1959. It says:

> "A new approach to attain controlled fusion has been suggested by the scientists of Los Alamos. The new concept involves using a 'magnetic gun' to drive a beam of fusion fuel through a strong magnetic field. The magnetic field constricts the fuel, enabling thermo-nuclear reactions to take place."

This is a suggestion which had been made originally by Dr. Bhabha himself. Development of nuclear research is directly proportional to the investment that we are in a position to make. I am sure we are in a position to make larger investments than indicated in the Third Plan. Our young scientists, led by Dr. Bhabha, would be able to discover that last trigger which will place us in a position to utilise this fusion for the purpose of peaceful uses of atomic energy.

Shri Naushir Bharucha: While I fully associate myself with the appreciation expressed of our scientists by the previous speakers, I think it is necessary that the House should look at the developments in nuclear energy in correct perspective.

The fuller Report which has been presented to this House in the course of the year gives us a very encouraging picture. The year's achievements include the Canada-India reactor being commissioned; the operating rate of the Apsara has been stepped up; ZERLINA will be commissioner next month. We have already produced the first reactor-grade Uranium, and I am told that by now a few tons of reactors-grade Uranium have been produced for fuel elements of the Canada-India reactor, and thus India has been placed on the map of nuclear nations which develop energy for peaceful uses, being the first country in Asia barring the U.S.S.R. which has been manufacturing fuel elements.

We have undertaken a large number of experiments connected with the Plutonium plant and with the heavy water re-concentration plant, all of which, as I shall presently point out, will be of immense use not only in saving foreign exchange but in

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guiding our country towards further progress in the matter of nuclear power generation.

I have been observing some misgivings mentioned by some of the speakers here. For instance, the previous speaker said that he was not sure whether we would have enough natural Uranium to sustain our power projects. In fact, as the Report points out, it is necessary first to understand the three stages of the fuel cycle, because these three stages take complete care of all the points and apprehension raised by my hon. friend Shri Viswanatha Reddy. It is not difficult to understand in plain language what the fuel cycle means.

In this world there is only one God-made element which can start reaction, all other fissionable elements are man-made elements. Therefore, the first stage of the fuel cycle contemplates that our reactors will use natural Uranium, which means Uranium which consists of 99:3 per cent of U-238 which is not fissionable and only 0:7 per cent of U-235 which is fissionable and which is the only God-made element in this world which is fissionable. Putting this in the reactor, you arrive at that stage where U-239 is produced. Then again there is fission and another element is produced called Neptunium, and that finally turns into Plutonium. That completes the first fuel cycle. In other words, you start with natural Uranium and produce Plutonium. Plutonium is man-made fissile material.

In the next grade we use Plutonium with Thorium, and that will produce an element called U-233; and the third grade reactors will produce more U-233 than the U-233 consumed in producing it. It other words, it is only at the third stage of the fuel cycle that we will become a self-sufficient country in the matter of breeding our own nuclear fuel. That is, in the third stage, if you put in one lb. of U-233 with Thorium, you will be able to extract more than one lb. of U-233 out of that. That means that the consumption of fuel will be less than the fuel that we produce in the reactor. That is one of the characeristics of nuclear power which no other source of power possesses. If we bear in mind these three stages of the fuel cycle, it becomes obvious that it is not necessary for us to have very large quantities of natural Uranium except for the purpose of starting the reactor.

This question has also got a direct bearing on one point, namely, what we are going to do to have this final stage expedited, because the process of producing all these elements is slow. Can anything be done to telescope these fuel cycles or to expedite the rate of production of fuels. This obviously cannot be done because, in Nature, the process of disintegration of the atom is regulated at a pace which is constant. It can neither be accelerated or decelerated. Therefore, you cannot produce U-233 faster than nature helps you to produce, except, of course, that, by some technical, changes, advantages may be gained.

This brings us directly to the point why we should not have more reactors which will produce U-233. Therefore, my submission leads to this that since utilisation of Thorium resources is dependent on production of Plutonium first, and since better-grade Uranium-based power stations will require us to produce Uranium, we should double the capacity of our stations which utilise natural Uranium. In other words, instead of having 300 megawatts, I would appeal to the Prime Minister to consider the possibility of having 600 megawatts. In the Third Plan we propose to spend Rs. 925 crores on power generation, thermal, hydel and nuclear. On hydel and thermal we propose to spend Rs. 580 crores, and on atomic energy only Rs. 51 crores, and Rs. 24 crores for Uranium mining, fabrication and Plutonium extraction. In other words, together with transmission lines, we will spend, in the course of the Third Plan, only about Rs. 100 crores on atomic development. If out of Rs. 925 crores for power generation assigned for the Third Plan, we take Rs. 100 crores more and spend it on nuclear power development, we will be able to speed up the production of fuel elements, which is very necessary to do, and I would request the Prime Minister to look into this matter more closely.

Side by side, we should go in for medium and small reactors which are necessary where power consumption is not very large and which will enable our scientists to gather more experience. What is more, these medium reactors are useful for marine purposes. For instance, if our merchant marine could be equipped with nuclear power, it will mean a lot of difference to us. If, for instance, our cruisers are equipped with nuclear propulsion, they can go thousands of miles without refuelling, and for a country like India it is a question of the security of its coast lines. Therefore, I think the question of the medium and smaller reactors requires to be looked at from this point of view as well.

Coming to the question of comparative costs of thermal generation and nuclear generation, I think that all comparisons are absolutely meaningless. Today, probably, hydel power is generated at about 1.5 nP per unit, and thermal power is generated at 3 nP per unit. But both are being used. What would actually happen when nuclear energy is made available is that all this energy will be pooled into a super-grid; once it goes into the super-grid, you cannot say when it goes out to the consumer whether one unit was generated in a hydel power plant or in a thermal power plant or in a nuclear power plant.

After all, the State will have to fix the rate; either the State Electricity Board or any other authority that is set up then will have to fix a rate which covers up the cost, the average cost, of all types of production. If nuclear production is necessary to function as a base load station, and if other stations are brought in to meet peak requirements, then it cannot be said that the higher selling price of peak-load requirements should be apportioned to these thermal stations only and not to the nuclear stations. Therefore, all questions of comparative costs become absolutely meaningless. Therefore, my submission is this that the question of costs must not be looked at from that point of view at all.

I have studied the Electricity (Supply) Act of 1948, which provides a very complicated formula for computation of the cost of generation of a thermal station, and I am sure that the formula for providing the determination of the cost of generation in nuclear stations would be very different, and, therefore, it is futile for anybody at this stage to forecast whether the cost of producing nuclear power will be 4 nP or 6 nP. Whatever is produced will be consumed, and the basic point is that if you can sell electricity, by whatever means produced and at whatever cost, and sell it at a profit, as I am sure it will be possible to do, then all question of costs is relegated to the background.

What should determine our attitude to nuclear development is that the nuclear costs will fall faster than the cost of conventional power generation, and there are undoubted advantages in nuclear development which no other source of power can afford. Ultimately, we shall have a dependable and inexhaustible source of power supply in India, and that is a point which we cannot forget.

Also, I am of the opinion that if today we make a slight change in our Third Five Year Plan in the matter of generation of electricity supply and spend Rs. 100 crores more on nuclear power generation, I am sure, within five years thereafter, we shall not only reap back what we have put in, but this nation will have been assured of a stable and regular supply, and

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power-hunger or power-starvation will be unknown.

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: Mr. Speaker, Sir, in taking part in this discussion, I feel as if I was in a quandary. To begin with, the Department of Atomic Energy has produced a report which is a remarkably comprehensive report and says all that any Minister can say about it and much more, because a Minister, like many other Members, is rather ignorant of this subject and slightly apprehensive lest some questions be put to him which he cannot answer. So, there is this full report, and all the hon. Members who have spoken here have spoken not only in commendation and praise of the work of the Atomic Energy Department but have urged it and urged the Government to go ahead even at a faster pace in this direction. So, in view of this, what am I to say, Mr. Speaker? That is my difficulty.

It is a curious circumstance which strikes me often that here in India, we live in a variety of ages and centuries at the same time. Without any offence, I once said that we live in the cow-dung age in India, and I meant it in the sense that even now, the principal source of power in India is cow-dung. It is an extraordinary thing, but there it is. And at the same time, we are, if I may say so, among the more or less advanced countries in regard to the development of atomic energy. So, we span not only centuries but millenia in this.

I have no doubt that the attention we have paid to atomic energy has been right and very worth-while. It is worthwhile from the point of view of the practical advantages that are beginning to come to us and will come to us in greater measure. But it is worth-while from an even deeper point of view, one of longer perspective, because there can be no doubt that in this fast-changing world, a new age began with the bursting of the atom bomb at Hiroshima, at any rate, with this power coming into use. And ever since then,—it was only a few years ago—this has made considerable progress in both directions, both for destruction and for construction.

In that sense, therefore, this atomic energy is a real symbol of the modern world which Janus-like faces two ways, vast destruction and annihilation and great speed in construction and progress, all facing us at the same time, that is, the possibilities of both.

So far as we are concerned, we are determined not to go in for making atomic bombs and the like. But we are equally determined not to be left behind in this advance in the use of this new power. It is true that in the ultimate analysis, a country which has that power fully developed can use it for good purposes or evil purposes. And no declaration that I can make today will necessarily bind people in the future, but I do hope that we shall create an atmosphere in this country which will bind every Government in future, so that it may not use this power for evil purposes. But it is the symbol of the future, together with many other things. In past years, we rather slipped back in the development of science, technology and the like, and we are trying very laboriously to catch up. In this matter, let us not be left behind now. We should keep ourselves in the forefront from now onwards. Therefore, apart from the immediate use and good that it may bring us, from this very important future point of view, it is of the utmost importance that we should go ahead. We may calculate that a power station costs this much and that much, but there is something deeper than a power station; it is the future that we are trying to grasp and get hold of, and, therefore, we are trying to take advantage of it today. Therefore. it is something satisfying, and it is giving a measure of satisfaction that in this matter we are keeping ahead, and that we are making regular progress.

The report itself gives a full account of this. Hon. Members have spoken and congratulated our Department, or rather the Head of that Department, Dr. Bhabha, quite rightly, but I would like to lay stress on this that our congratulations are due to a brilliant set of young scientists who are working there. No big work can come out of one or two or three men. The great work that the Atomic Energy Department has done, and is doing, is to pick out able scientists, young people, and to give them the requisite training and experience. So that we have built up now a very fine set of very young or youngish people. In fact, I remember some very eminent scientists, I think, from England or America or some foreign country, referring to this. When they all go there to Trombay, one of the remarks they make almost invariably is about the youth of the men there occupying very responsible positions. I wish in other departments of our activity we could have that youth also.

Many hon. Members who spoke gave us plenty of information, no doubt, from this Report or from some other reading. There is not much that I wish to say. But I would perhaps repeat some things. One is that India is now among the very few countries in the world which has developed the technique of fabricating fuel elements. It is known to all Members here, but I wish to repeat it. It is an important thing, an important achievement. In doing this, one of the results is that we are saving a considerable amount in foreign exchange. I have not got the exact figures. They vary; the more we do, the more we save. From the figures I have, I find that after having spent Rs. 81 lakhs for this fuel fabrication facility, of which Rs. 40 lakhs was foreign exchange, we are saving annually Rs. 45 lakhs in foreign exchange and could save more with bigger production.

Then so far as our *Apsara* is concerned, it is interesting to note how the level of operation has gone up annually from 17,840 kwh to 1 million kwh last year—in four years. Now it is known that the Canada-India Reactor achieved critically on July 10. This is going to be one of the biggest isotope producers in the world. ZERLINA has yet to come; it is being built.

One of the things to which I should like to draw special attention is the Electronics Division of the Trombay establishment. We are building big electrical plants, electronics and all that. But the Trombay establishment really as a side issue—it is not actually a side issue; it is a very important issue, but still it is one of the aspects of its work—has built up a very big Electronics Division which is producing all kinds of electronic instruments etc. And electronics definitely is a part of the future, for which we are working.

Then a question was asked about training—I forget which hon. Member raised it. Training is being given. Apart from the fact that we are helping numerous Universities, schools etc., and we are specially helping the Meghnad Saha Institute of Nuclear Physics, there is a proposal in the Third Plan for two Inter-University Atomic Centres, one in North India and one in the South. We felt that confining it to one University would not be so advantageous as making it in a sense available to Universities in a particular region.

The fact of the matter is we have neither the resources to have these reactors everywhere nor, till now, have we got the trained personnel for that. This difficulty has pursued us in the past in regard to any high-class research. Though, usually, our universities may have one, two or three very fine and able men—they do good work—yet they are spread out, one here, two there or three somewhere else; while nowadays this big scale research requires a team of high-class men, we seldom have that team in

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one place. And, one of the reasons why the Trombay establishment has done exceedingly good work is because a big team works there. If all these very persons were spread out in all the universities of India the result would not have been so good although the men were the same. Therefore, instead of spreading out in different universities, we want to have, to begin with, two centres, one in the north and one in the south, inter-university centres where the universities in that region would have access to go and work. I do not know where they would be situate—maybe in some university or near it. But, anyhow, they would be opened.

These, presumably, will have reactors and the like and other facilities and a team of people drawn from those universities will work there. All that because we want the universities to give all this basic training and even some higher training. But, at the present moment, the real high-class training is being given at Trombay itself.

I think some hon. Members have mentioned, and I repeat it, that 200 graduate scientists and engineers a year are being trained there and we are training not only our own people but people from other parts of Asia and elsewhere.

Thus, all these various developments are taking place. But the attention of most people, I suppose, is attracted to these atomic power stations that are being built or are going to be built. Shri Bharucha, evidently, wants this part of the programme to be expanded considerably and speeded up. I would very much like to do so. Though I do think we should go fast, we should go on sound foundations. Therefore, we have decided to provide one power station; and we are considering the establishment of two more similar nuclear power stations, initially with an installed capacity of 150 mega watts, each capable of doing double shift. I hope that we shall be able to do this.

People may calculate the advantages of having a power station—a conventional power station and atomic energy station—calculate the cost etc. Even from that point of view, I feel it is advantageous to have atomic power and I shall give some figures. But, apart from that, it is something far more than this business of cost. It is, as I just said, keeping a grip on the future. It is difficult to describ it. But I feel it strongly that by a these means we are getting a grip o the future. By and large I say in a humility and without an element of criticism of other people that, broadly, our outlook in India—not of individuals, not of my hon. friends in this House, but broadly our outlook is not scientific. It is rather static. We calculate everything from things as they are not realising that we live in a world where nothing remains what it is, that everything changes the next moment. We read about it; but we are not emotionally or intellectually conscious of this changing world. The result is that we do not see in this atomic energy work just the reflection of the changing world and the way this really stretches itself out into the future, and makes our position securer than it might otherwise be. That apart—I think it was referred to by some hon. Members—one very important factor about these stations is that they have a dual purpose: producing power on the one hand and plutonium on the other. Plutonium is of the greatest importance as it is not available from outside as a commercial commodity. Its production is essential in order to enable the country to set up breeder power stations using thorium which we have in ample measure. From all these points of view it becomes very important for us to build up these power stations.

About the cost of it, there is some misapprehension. From time to time some kind of a leading article appears in the newspapers dealing with the cost and saying that it is an uneconomic proposition to build up these atomic stations. Well, The country has to go the farthest with the United States, United Kingdom and the Soviet Union. I have not got any particulars about the Soviet Union. But here is the British Government's White Paper on the Nuclear Power Programme to which they are committed. Let me correct a mistake in people's minds who think that they had given up this power programme or have reduced it. Nothing of the kind. The fact of the matter is that they are going ahead but for the moment they have got large quantities of coal and oil and there has been an abundance of oil and coal being produced in Sahara and elsewhere and they are trying to use them. Anyhow, I shall just quote a few sentences about costs. The cost of electricity has gone down. That is true. But it says:

> "The nuclear costs in which capital charges are the major element are falling even faster in stations designed today."

The way things are going down is surprisingly fast.

> "In the long run we shall, therefore, need increasing supplies of nuclear power. In about ten years' time it should be cheaper to generate a base load in nuclear stations than in conventional stations provided that we achieve the technological progress that is expected. To secure this we must continue to build nuclear stations on an adequate scale."

The point to remember is that you have to carry on to achieve something. You cannot wait for America or Russia or somebody else to achieve it and then try to imitate the benefits of that. We can get the benefits but we are lagging behind and not relying on ourselves and we are not training our scientists to do that first-class work but make them imitate what others do. Therefore, we have to build up in order to keep in front all the time. The moment we give it up and wait for a better opportunity when say, the United States, has perhaps made some further improvement and then take advantage of it, we have lost the foothold. We can get it back but we have lost that time. The British White Paper says:

> "In these circumstances, the Government has decided, in agreement with the parties concerned that the national interest would best be served by continuing, for the time being, to place orders for nuclear station at the rate of roughly one every year."

Then here is an interesting lecture given by Mr. Christopher Hinton at the recent Royal Society's Tercentenary Celebrations. This shows again how the cost goes down. There is a chart here and the stations in U.K. are mentioned. At Berkely the cost was £ 160 per KW, at Bradwell, £ 159; at the third station about £ 133 at the fourth about £ 123 and at the fifth, about £ 110. Every new one makes it cheaper. It goes on because of experience gained and technological progress. There is also an interesting diagram here. May I also say that India is very favourably situated so far as costs are concerned—more favourably situated than England or America? The difference here between conventional and other things will be greater because of the distances for coal or other elements to be transported here for conventional use. According to this chart, the nuclear costs and the conventional costs are both falling. A coal fire plant and a nuclear plant are shown here. In the case of the coal fire plant the costs fall gently whereas in the case of the nuclear plant the costs fall much more rapidly. For a 75 per cent load factor the two lines cross in 1966 and then the costs of atomic energy go down and it becomes less and less expensive as compared to coal.

[Shri Jawaharlal Nehru]

My point is, it is generally admitted now in other countries where conditions are less advantageous than in India from this point of view that nuclear power stations are becoming and will soon become definitely economic propositions and cheaper, three or four years later, than conventional ones. In India, as I said, which is a big country with long distances, far from coal, far from hydro-electric works and other things, it is even more necessary. Also, inspite of an apparently large supply of coal in India, the supplies are not really large enough for the future so far as we know and we have to protect the future. Therefore, there is no doubt that we should lay the foundations for this and go ahead from now on. If we start a power station now it will be four years before it is ready, and if we do not take steps now for the second and third stations progressively, then we are thrown out, in the future we will be left rather far behind.

Now, as you perhaps know, we have decided to have the first power station on the west coast of India between Ahmedabad and Bombay. This place was chosen entirely from the point of various facilities. The place chosen is a place called Tarapore which is in Maharashtra but near Gujarat border, not far from i (*Interruption*). It is totally immaterial whether it is in Maharashtra or Gujarat, because it will supply in equal measure power to both. That has been settled and, in fact, the power distribution will be controlled by a committee or something like that where Gujarat, Maharashtra and the Atomic Energy Department will all jointly be represented. It is a very important plant, but it is not a kind of a plant which gives employment to very large numbers of people. It gives employment to some very able people, but not large numbers.

Shri Kalika Singh: And the second power station between Delhi and Bhakra?

Shri Jawaharlal Nehru: That I do not know.

Shri Mukerjee said something about the disposal of atomic or radio-active waste. As a matter of fact, this is a matter which is one of great concern. I am not quite sure whether the scientists know what to do about it. It is a great nuisance. One does not know where to put it. Wherever it goes it is a nuisance. Anyhow, the International Atomic Energy Agency at Vienna have set up a number of panels on the disposal of radio-active waste and handling and transport of radio-active material etc. Indian scientists have been invited to be members of all these panels, and one Indian scientists, Mr. Sethna, was a chairman of one of these panels on the transport of large radio-active sources.

About training, I want to say one other thing. We are starting at Trombay refresher courses for scientists in universities to come and have refresher courses in atomic energy, etc.

17 hrs.

I think there is really nothing more that I can say. It is all given in the books that have been supplied. Some hon. Members probably know as much or even more than I do about it. I am grateful for the appreciation shown by hon. Members for the work of this Department. I think this atomic energy Department may well be said to be unique in that respect, because no other department of the Government of India has had this unanimous appreciation.

Shri D. C. Sharma: Sir, I do not want to add to what has already been said. I think this has been a very refreshing debate. It has been all ligh and it has engendered no heat. I think everyone of us is the wiser for this debate.

One point I would like to tell the hon. Prime Minister, who is in charge of atomic energy, is that instead of two university centres, there should be four university centres in the four corners of India. The second point I want to make is that the pay scales of the young scientists should be upgraded. I think the pay scales are not very adequate.

I agree with him that we should have a scientific outlook. I think the atomic energy establishment should try to produce such literature as can be read by lay men and as can give them some idea of this fast changing world and as can induce them to develop a scientific outlook.

Mr. Speaker: I will put the motion to the vote of the House.

The question is:

> "That this House takes note of the Report of the Department of Atomic Energy for the year 1959-60, laid on the Table of the House on the 18th April, 1960."

The motion was adopted.

17.03 hrs.

CORRECTION OF THE RESULT OF DIVISION

Mr. Speaker: I have to inform the House that there was an error in the announcement of the figures of Division held on 9th August, 1960 on the Resolution moved by Shri Naushir Bharucha in regard to the disapproval of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1960. The House has already taken a decision and this error has absolutely no effect on it. However, I consider that the correct position should be on record. The facts are as follows:—

The House will recollect that before the announcement of the result, amongst others Rani Kesar Kumari Devi got up and stated that she wanted to vote for 'Noes'. The photograph, however, indicates that she had voted for 'Ayes'. Hence one vote should be subtracted from the 'Ayes'. The correct figure for 'Ayes' should, therefore, be 37 instead of 38 as announced yesterday.

17.04 hrs.

The Lok Sabha then adjourned till Eleven of the Clock on Thursday, August 11, 1960/*Sravana* 20, 1882 (*Saka*).

[*Wednesday, August* 10, 1960/*Sravana* 19, 1882(*Saka*)]

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS . . 1807—41

S.Q. No.	*Subject*	COLUMNS
273.	Ganga bridge near Ghazipur	1807—11
274.	Sale of unhygienic eatables near Delhi Schools .	1811—13
277.	Upper Sileru project .	1813—15
279.	Prices of foodgrains .	1815—22
280.	Sea island "Andrews" cotton	1822—25
281.	Storage of foodgrains .	1826—31
282.	Raipur Telephone Exchange . . .	1831-32
283.	New design sleeper coaches	1832—34
284.	Silting of Bhakra Reservoir	1834—36
285.	Silting of rivers in West Bengal. . . .	1836—38
286.	Decentralisation of Administration in States .	1838—41

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS . . 1841—1902

S.Q. No.		
272.	Bombay truck owners' strike	1841-42
275.	Diesel traction on Railways	1842
276.	Telegraph Enquiry Committee	1842-43
278.	Malaria	1843
287.	Minicoy Lighthouse .	1843-44
288.	Augmentation of Water Resources Committee Report	1844-45
289.	More paddy through music	1845-46
290.	Sleeping accommodation in Waiting Rooms .	1846
291.	Ahmedabad-Kandla National Highway . .	1847
292.	Food trains for Assam .	1847
293.	"Pushtow" barges for the Brahmaputra .	1848
294.	Jet planes for A.I.I. .	1848
295.	Promotion of S. C. and S. T. Railway employees.	1848-49
296.	Agricultural implements	1849
297.	Long trains	1849-50
298.	U. K.-India Postal services	1850

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*contd.*

S.Q. No.	*Subject*	COLUMNS
299.	Employees at Santa Cruz airport	1851
300.	D.V.C. irrigation canals.	1851-52
301.	Sugar for Kerala . .	1852
302.	Railway sleepers . .	1853
303.	Panel of Engineers for irrigation and power projects	1853-54
304.	Shipping freight rates .	1854
305.	Nagas' attacks on Railways	1854—56
306.	Family Planning . .	1856
307.	Railway line for Dandakaranya . . .	1856-57
308.	U. N. Statistical Year Book, 1959 . . .	1857
309.	Refixation of water rates	1858
310.	Electricity for Kerala .	1858
311.	Price of rice in Kerala .	1858-59
312.	Passes for candidates for Railway services . .	1859
313.	Incidence of skin disease "Dermatitis" . .	1860
314.	Purchase of aeroplanes from U.S.S.R. . .	1860
315.	Manufacture of electric locomotives . . .	1860-61
316.	Foreign Exchange for bridge construction material	1861

U.S.Q. No.		
498.	Irrigation Schemes of Kerala.	1861-62
499.	Departmental catering on C. Railway . . .	1862
500.	Ad-hoc tribunal . .	1862-63
501.	Sugar factory in Andhra Pradesh	1863
502.	P.&T. employees . .	1863-64
503.	Portable Charcoal Kiln	1864-65
504.	Proofing-cum-Antiseptic composition . . .	1865
505.	Red Dutch timber . .	1866
506.	Chlorophyll . . .	1866-67
507.	Pontoon bridge on Rupnarayan river . .	1867-68
508.	Advertisements at Railway stations . . .	1868-69
509.	Merger of Class I & II Railway Accounts clerks .	1869

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*contd.*

U.S.Q. No.	*Subject*	COLUMNS
510.	Renovation of stations .	1870
511.	Cooperative Societies in Himachal Pradesh .	1870
512.	Ayurvedic and Allopathic Institutions . . .	1870-71
513.	Housing problem in Delhi	1871–72
514.	Ikhla fishery . .	1872
515.	Railway sleepers from Jammu and Kashmir .	1872–73
516.	Ajmeri Gate slum clearance	1873
517.	Project Report on Western Jamuna canal .	1873–74
518.	CentralMechanised Farm, Suratgarh . . .	1874
519.	Gradation of foodgrains .	1874
520.	P. & T. facilities in Punjab	1875
521.	Welfare officers in P. & T.	1875-76
522.	Greater Calcutta water supply and drainage scheme	1876
523.	Looting of train . .	1876–77
524.	Procurement of foodgrains by Co-operative Societies	1877
525.	Import of electrical equipment	1877–78
526.	Indian Delegation to W.H.O. Conference .	1878
527.	New T.B. centre in Delhi	1878–79
528.	Co-operative Societies for setting up sugar mills .	1879
529.	Vana-Mahotsava in Himachal Pradesh . .	1879–80
530.	Train accident near Gorakhpur	1880
531.	Shortage of foodgrains in Jammu and Kashmir .	1880–81
532.	Shifting of Simaria station	1881
533.	Construction of New station buildings on N.E. railway	1881–82
534.	Overbridge at Motihari .	1882
535.	Corruption cases on N.E. Railway	1882–83
536.	Compensation by Railway for acquired land .	1883
537.	T. B. patients in Delhi .	1883–84
538.	Co-operatives Societies in Delhi . .	1884
539.	Water supply at Railway stations . . .	1885

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS—*contd.*

U.S.Q. No.	*Subject*	COLUMNS
540.	Rural craft Museums at Block level . . .	1885–86
541.	U.N. Special Fund for Hydro-power stations .	1886
542.	Automatic traffic control in New Delhi . . .	1886–87
543.	Community Development conference . . .	1887–88
544.	Manduadih junction	1888
545.	Central Rice Institute and Central Potato Research Institute . .	1888–89
546.	Prefixing 'Dr' by Medical Practitioners: . .	1889
547.	Overbridge at Kozhikode	1889–90
548.	P.R.O's office, Church-gate, Bombay . .	1890–91
549.	Family Planning in Andhra Pradesh . .	1891
550.	Railway out-agencies in Andhra Pradesh . .	1891
551.	Railway protection force on S. Railway . .	1892
552.	Sugar production .	1892–93
553.	Willingdon Hospital .	1893
554.	Train accident near Motihari station . . .	1893–94
555.	Accident of Calcutta Port Commissions Railway .	1894—96
556.	Accident at Howrah station	1896–97
557.	Development of fisheries in Punjab	1897
558.	Railway accident near Ahmedabad . .	1897–98
559.	Derailment near Minambakkam	1898–99
560.	Khaperkheda thermal station (Maharashtra) .	1899
561.	Corpse in train . .	1899–1900
562.	Cooperative Farming Societies in Delhi .	1900
563.	C.H.S. Dispensary, Patel Nagar	1900–01
564.	Land Levelling Operations	1901–02
565.	I.C.A.R.	1902

PAPERS LAID ON THE TABLE 1910-11

(1) A copy of the Annual Report of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences for the year 1959-60, under Section 19 of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences Act, 1956

(2) A copy of each of the following Notifications under sub-section (6) of Section 3 of the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 :

(i) G.S.R. 501 dated the 30th April, 1960

(ii) G.S.R. 805 dated the 14th July, 1960 making certain amendment to the Sugar (Movement Control) Order, 1959

(3) A copy of Notification No. G.S.R. 559 dated the 21st May, 1960, making certain further amendment to the Indian Aircraft Rules, 1937, under sub-section (3) of Section 5 of the Indian Aircraft Act, 1934, together with an Explanatory Note.

STATEMENT *RE* DEMANDS FOR EXCESS GRANTS, 1957-58 1911

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi) presented a statement showing Demands for Excess Grants in respect of the Budget (General) for 1957-58

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON PRIVATE MEMBERS' BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS PRESENTED . . . 1911

Sixty-sixth Report was presented.

CALLING ATTENTION TO MATTER OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE 1912-14

Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee called the attention of the Minister of Food and Agriculture to the allegations of adulteration of milk supplied under Delhi Milk Scheme.

The Deputy Minister of Agriculture (Shri M. V. Krishnappa) made a statement in regard thereto

BILL INTRODUCED 1915

The International Development Association (Status, Immunities and Privileges) Bill, 1960

BILL UNDER CONSIDERATION . . . . 1915—77

The Minister of Revenue and Civil Expenditure (Dr. B. Gopala Reddi) moved that the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill be taken into consideration. The discussion was not concluded . . . .

MOTION *RE* REPORT OF DEPARTMENT OF ATOMIC ENERGY . . 1977—2019

Shri D.C. Sharma moved the motion *re* Report of Department of Atomic Energy laid on the Table on 18-4-1960. After some disucssion the motion was adopted.

CORRECTION OF RESULT OF DIVISION . . 2020

The Speaker made an announcement regarding a correction in the figures of a division held on the Resolution moved by Shri Naushir Bharucha in regard to thedisapproval of the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1960 on the 9th August, 1960—*for* "Ayes—38" *read* "Ayes—37".

AGENDA FOR THURSDAY, AUGUST 11, 1960 /SRAVANA 20, 1882 (SAKA)—

Further consideration of the Taxation Laws (Amendment) Bill and passing of the Bill; consideraion and passing of the Banking Companies (Amendment) Bill; and also discussion on the motion *re* Report of University Grants Commission,

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